

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND
China Overland Trade Report.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome	308
Leading Articles.—	
The Hongkong Pilot Service	304
Turkish Subjects in China	305
Jubilee of the Proclamation in India	305
Tibet	306
Random Reflections	306
Supreme Court	308
Daring Robbery at Kowloon	310
Hongkong Sanitary Board	311
The New Governor-General of Indo-China	311
Public Companies:—	
The Dairy Farm Co., Limited	312
The Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd.	312
A Sanitary Oath	312
The Tragio Affair in Korea	313
Kulangsu (Amoy) Municipal Council	313
The Proposed Small Pox Hospital at Kennedy Town	313
Death of the Hon. C. S. Napier	313
The Philippines by Dr. Wilder	309
Canton News	313
Commercial	315
Shipping	316

MARRIAGES.

STUART—KEMP:—At the Peak Church, Hongkong, on Thursday, the 29th October 1908, MARY STUART to JOSEPH HOB-FORD KEMP. [1510]

On October 22nd, at Shanghai, HENRY WALTER LIVINGSTON, to ALICE, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. MOOREHEAD, J. M. Customs, Shanghai.

DEATH.

On October 17th, at Foochow, THOMAS BROCKETT, aged 60 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 2nd Oct. and the parcel mails closed in London for despatch by the all sea route on the 23rd September and for despatch overland on the 30th of September, arrived per s.s. "Delhi" on the 29th inst.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Sir Havilland de Sansmarez, the Judge of his Majesty's Supreme Court for China and Korea, was operated upon a month ago for appendicitis at the Victoria Cottage Hospital in Guernsey. He was reported to be progressing favourably when the last mail left.

Some Chinese gunboats were present at Henli to prevent any possible disorder during the regatta.

The "golden wedding" announcement is made of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Hooper, formerly of Shanghai, who are now living at Duniden, New Zealand. They were married on October 5th 1858, at Holy Trinity Church by the Bishop of Hongkong.

The bodies of the Japanese soldiers who died while in captivity in Russia were disinterred a month ago with all honours, in the presence of representatives of the Embassy and the local authorities. As the Russian law forbids incineration, the remains were to be sent to Hamburg to be burnt, and the ashes shipped to Japan.

A dance was given on board H.M.S. "Flora" at Shanghai on the 22nd inst. The hostess for the evening was Mrs. A. H. J. Pitt, in honour of whose recent marriage the dance was given and among the numerous guests were the American Consul General and Mr. Denby, Sir Reginald Pole-Carew and Lady Pole-Carew, Herr Miloslav Kober, and the Captain and Officers of the French Cruiser *Buix*.

It is the intention of the Government of the Straits Settlements to fix by Ordinance the initial Capital cost of the Tanjong Pagar Docks at \$19,003,149.45. The administration report, for the half year ended June 30th, shows a total disposable balance of \$870,436.21. Of this sum \$631,035.67 has been paid over to Government in respect of interest due, the balance being transferred to reserve, and insurance funds &c.

Referring to the recent Rescript issued by the Emperor of Japan, the *Japan Chronicle* says:—As possibly explaining the issue of this Rescript, we understand that a few days ago the Minister of the Imperial Household recommended that in the new Budget, now under consideration, there should be an increase of the Civil List—which now amounts to ¥8,000,000 and has been unchanged for twenty years,—in view of the increased expenses of the Imperial House. On this coming to the knowledge of the Emperor, his Majesty at once refused to give consent to the proposal, saying that it would be wrong to increase the burdens of the people at the present moment, and instructing the Minister of the Household to cut down expenses so that the present Civil List would suffice.

The Consul General of China has called the attention of the Governor General of the Philippines to the frequency with which murderous assaults have been committed upon Chinamen in Manila of late. Especial allusion was made to the murders in Pandacan, Intramuros, and Trozo, in all of which cases the criminals are still at large and which, the Consul believes, to reveal a determined and systematic persecution of his countrymen. He asks for a greater measure of security for the lives and property of his nationals in Manila. The general opinion in official circles, says the *Cable News*, especially in the office of the prosecuting attorney and the department of secret service, is that these murderous assaults are due to the activity of the Tong, or Chinese secret societies into which the Chinese of Manila are divided. The attack made by three Chinamen on a fellow countryman on calle Balio Balio lends colour to this belief.

Admiral Sperry has informed the United States Consul at Saigon that the American Fleet will not call at any port in Indo-China. A Hanoi contemporary makes known the fact that several thousands of American flags had been stocked by an enterprising local store, in anticipation of a visit by the Fleet. These, presumably may be had cheap for use in ports which the Fleet will visit.

The Government of Portugal has appointed Senhor Diego da Sa (the Harbour Master at Macao) and Senhor Miranda Guedes (Director of Public Works, Macao) with Mr. Carlos d'Assumpcao (lat interpreter in the service of the Macao Government) to form the Commission to represent Portugal in the delimitation of the boundaries of the Colony of Macao. Our Macao correspondent states that they are proceeding to Shanghai to discuss with the Chinese Commissioners.

A large cracker factory, known as the Tung-Chong, the principal factory of the kind in Macao was destroyed by fire last week. There was a large quantity of crackers on the premises ready for export, and the blaze illuminated the whole city. His Excellency the Governor was soon on the spot after the alarm had been raised, and in the absence of the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade directed the operations of the Brigade. Two men are reported to have perished in the fire and another was badly injured. The house belonged to Mr. Herbert Dent.

Major A. A. S. Barnes, of the Wiltshire Regiment, has been appointed by the Army Council as the new commandant of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps. The *N. C. Daily News* says:—Major Barnes has served continuously in the British Army for twenty-two years. During the whole of that time he has been employed in actual regiment works except for one year when he was appointed Transvaal Government Emigration Agent at Chefoo. Of these twenty-two years nine were spent in India, eight in North China, and five at home, while of the eight in China seven were spent with the Chinese Regiment at Weihaiwei. Major Barnes was one of the officers sent out originally to assist in raising that Corps in 1899, and accompanied it through the whole of the North China campaign in 1900. From his services in India and China he is well acquainted with the languages and peoples of both countries.

A Manila contemporary announced in big type last Wednesday that Luzon had been "jolted some," and proceeded to explained that "a tectonic disturbance of the earth's crust at a point in the Pacific, probably about 200 kilometers from Manila rocked Luzon in a series of earthquakes, two of them unpleasantly severe, and thirteen sympathetic quavers varying in duration and intensity. The temblor came on about 11.10 in the forenoon, without the least note of warning, and for about forty seconds the ground heaved sighs and houses rocked, and timid folk hearkened for Gabriel's horn. There was a general exodus from many of the public buildings—notably the City Hall on Bagumbayan, which shook like an aspen limb bowed by the wind, and several of the new structures in the business section, downtown. But beyond a shower of tiles from the roof of 68 calle Legaspi, Walled city, no report of damage was received at the police stations."

THE HONGKONG PILOT SERVICE.

(Daily Press, October 27th.)

When the Hongkong Pilots' Ordinance of 1904 was enacted a number of British master mariners trading in these waters imagined that it would result in bringing the Colony of Hongkong into line in this matter with all the other ports in the Far East. It is a singular fact that in no other port in the Far East (excepting Japan) is an Asiatic pilot entrusted with a foreign vessel,—sailing ship or steamer. Swatow, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, Shanghai, Kiaochow, Tientsin, Newchwang, Saigon, Bangkok, Singapore, Penang are all, we understand, staffed by white pilots; as also are the Indian ports of Calcutta, Bombay and Karachi. Hongkong had occupied a unique position among them all in that it did not, up to the passing of the Pilots' Ordinance of 1904, possess a single white pilot. When that Ordinance was passed requiring all persons practising as pilots in these waters to satisfy a Board of Examiners of their competency, many British master mariners, as we have said, imagined their chance had come for employment as pilots. Imagination carried them further than the circumstances justified. They obtained the impression that "a properly constituted pilot service," such as the Ordinance contemplated, meant a service amenable to all the pilot regulations laid down in the Merchant Shipping Act. If that were so the Chinese pilot, OTHELLO-like, would have lost his occupation, and room for the competent British marine would have been found. We do not know how many British master mariners have sat for the examination in the last four years and obtained certificates of competency, but certainly many more than are now trying to earn a livelihood here as pilots. The Chinese pilot has not been displaced because the pilot regulations embodied in the Merchant Shipping Act have not, by the local Ordinance, been made applicable to the port. This does not seem to have been generally understood. British master mariners who have obtained certificates of competency as pilots in these waters have learnt to their cost that the pilot regulations laid down in the Merchant Shipping Act may with impunity be disregarded here, and so long as that is the case, we are informed, it is a bad speculation for a British master mariner to turn pilot in Hongkong.

When we refer to *Hansard* to learn what were the reasons given for enacting the Pilots' Ordinance, we find that the ATTORNEY-GENERAL stated that what the Government wanted to do was to see that no one should offer his services as a pilot who was not reasonably considered to be capable of performing the duties of a pilot. "In one sense," said the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, "it may be said that a place like this does not require pilots; the navigation is open, and there is no need to have pilots to bring ships in and out of Hongkong. But apparently the Harbour is so extremely crowded and the difficulties of finding berths so considerable, that the Government has been approached by the shipping community and asked to provide some safeguard that persons who offer themselves for pilots within the waters of the Colony shall know what to do." That application resulted in the Pilots' Ordinance being introduced and passed. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL further explained that: "There is no compulsion for anyone to take a pilot, nor will taking a pilot exempt the ship that takes him from any consequences that may occur from

collision or otherwise. Government accepts absolutely no responsibility in the matter." A maximum scale of pilotage fees was drawn up and published, and for the rest the Government said to the Shipping community "Go as you please." For all we know, the Shipping Firms are not dissatisfied with what has been done. Some sense of security is given by the knowledge that the Chinese pilot engaged to bring in or take out a ship has a certificate of competency, and the Chinese pilot remains "cock of the walk." The British pilot remains only an object of sympathy. There is little or no occupation apparently for qualified British pilots in the waters of this British Colony. Hongkong remains unique in that respect. Representations, we understand, have been made to the Government on the subject without success. The Government does not see any means by which it could interfere. "So long as shipping firms consider that the Chinese pilots are competent, Government cannot force them to employ Europeans in preference to Chinese." On this it may be pointed out that it is the Government, not the shipping firms, who, in the first place, considers the Chinese pilots competent, and the shipping companies take the certificate issued to the pilots as the Government warrant for it. The Government cannot entirely free itself from responsibility in the matter. As however, the Government is not prepared to put the Pilot Service of the Colony on the same footing as at other ports—where, for instance, the pilots are all under the immediate direction of the Harbour Master or Pilot Board and each licensed pilot is employed in turn—the European pilots only hope of success in the endeavour to earn a livelihood at Hongkong lies in an appeal to the patriotism of the shipping firms. Until there is any very pronounced preference shown on the part of the shipping firms for European pilots, British seamen who may be aspiring to become pilots would be well advised to give Hongkong the go-bye. It is a hard thing to say that in British Colonial Waters the British pilot is not wanted, but the fact has been proved in Hongkong by many during the past four years, and aspiring British pilots should heed the teachings of experience.

TURKISH SUBJECTS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, October 28th.)

Turkish subjects in China are apparently left in some doubt as to which European Power is actually in charge of their interests in this country at the present time. Since China refused point blank to acknowledge the right of Germany to assume the protection of Turkish subjects in China, nothing has been heard of the question. Both Turkey and Germany doubtless have been too much occupied with questions of greater moment, but we do not suppose that the last has been heard of the matter. That a proposition to assume the protection of Turkish subjects in China should be entertained by Germany, a nation who are generally credited with being far-seeing diplomatists and with the possession of what is often more valuable than diplomatic talent—sound common sense and prudence, must seem somewhat astonishing. When, some time back, the question arose of Germany undertaking the protection of Christian Missions in China, though it was at first announced that she was willing to do so, it turned out later that more prudent counsels had prevailed, and that the honour of dealing with the various hornets' nests which such a step would in

all likelihood lead to, was in the end prudently dispensed with. It is probable therefore that when the question of protecting Turkish subjects in China comes to be fully considered—if ever matters reach that stage—similar prudent action will be followed. The position of Protector of Turkish subjects if the Chinese Government is ever induced to assent to it, which seems very doubtful, would certainly be anything but a profitable one; and would be much more likely to involve Germany in difficulties with China than to increase her influence with the Ottoman Empire. It may reasonably be presumed that it was mainly the latter consideration that induced Germany to consider the question in any way. Germany has by degrees established an influence with the Sultan, which exceeds that of any other European Power; and there seems to be a general acquiescence in her furthering her interests in the "Near East," so long as there is no direct interference with those of other countries. It has thus become her policy to act as the chief friend of the Sultan, and the influence which she has by degrees acquired is of considerable importance. The idea, therefore, of her acting as a protector of Turkish subjects in China might appear desirable as a means of consolidating her friendship with the Sultan without incurring any very grave responsibility, seeing how few Turkish subjects have found their way to the Celestial Empire. At the same time it is not to be overlooked that a step of this description, which appears of little importance at one time, may from unforeseen developments, assume a very different aspect later on. The trouble which the French have had for many years as Protectors of Catholic Missions in China might form a warning to any other nation not to put itself in a similar position in a hurry. For a long time France was looked upon with natural, though uncalled for suspicion, by the Chinese Government and Provincial officials, who considered that her undertaking to deal with internal matters, which did not directly concern her, indicated some secret designs of aggression. This idea was soon spread by the Chinese army among foreign officials, and thus, by degrees, it became accepted by Chinese and Europeans alike. The effective result was that ordinary diplomatic requests and representations by France were looked upon with far less favour than the same demands would have received if coming from other quarters, so that the consequence of France being in the position of protector of Catholics was materially to weaken her influence both at Peking and in the Provinces.

Whether the advantages that may accrue to Germany from doing a friendly act towards Turkey will counterbalance the possible loss of influence and friendship at Peking is a question which will have to be carefully considered. So far as any permanent cementing of good understanding between Turkey and Germany is concerned, the arrangement might be quite as likely to lead to disagreement. It might not be an easy task for any foreign consul, acting on behalf of some small Turkish traders, to do what would be regarded from a Turkish point of view as justice; and a Protectorate which did not secure material advantage in such matters would soon come to be regarded with little consideration. Some rather complicated questions also might arise with respect to Turkish opium, with regard to which it might not be very convenient to have to act the part of Ottoman champion. There are other questions too, which would require rather nice handling, such as that readily suggested by the

Chinese Government that Turkey has no Treaty with her: and also that exterritoriality prevails in Turkey as in China, and it is therefore, scarcely to be expected that China will grant what would amount to exterritorial rights to Turkish subjects. This latter objection, it is true, may possibly be removed if the reforms now being inaugurated in Turkey are carried out with reasonable success—though, from what has occurred up to the present, this is still a matter of considerable doubt. But if this should prove so, there would then be no longer any reason why Turkey should not have her own Diplomatic and Consular Authorities in China, like any other nation.

Altogether the proposal seems to be one about which there must be considerable hesitation before it can take any practical shape. The fact that the Chinese Government is clearly opposed to it is of importance, as any such arrangement must manifestly be looked upon as a concession on the part of the Chinese and cannot by any plausibility be demanded as a right. It may be questioned, therefore, whether Germany will care to press the question much further than showing a willingness to act as a friendly go-between, between Turkey and China, should occasion demand it, which is practically what France has been doing. If the matter be carried any further, it can scarcely be doubted that it will be found to be one surrounded by too many knotty questions to make it worth while to press it upon the Chinese Government, unless for some unforeseen reason, they are themselves desirous of bringing about such an arrangement as that which has been proposed, and at present this seems to be very unlikely.

JUBILEE OF THE PROCLAMATION IN INDIA

(Daily Press, October 29th.)

We mentioned recently a statement which had appeared in a London periodical that LORD MORLEY, the Secretary of State for India, was engaged in elaborating a Reform Bill for India—"a Bill which would give practical effect to his Liberal principles." India has been in the public eye of late as a hot-bed of sedition, and the fact that the Government has been compelled within the past six months to have recourse to stern and repressive measures threw some doubt upon the accuracy of the report. It, nevertheless, appears to have been well-founded and, in all probability, the people of India will be made acquainted with the broad purpose of the measure on Monday next, November 2nd. On that day the Jubilee of the QUEEN's proclamation will be celebrated or, rather, recognised, for no big Viceregal durbar or other important central function is to be held on the occasion, though a local celebration is being arranged for in Madras. It was on November 1st, 1858, that by "an Act for the Better Government of India," which still regulates Indian affairs, all the territories formerly governed by the East India Company were transferred to the Crown, and all the powers exercised by the Company and the Board of Control were vested in the Secretary of State for India, assisted by a Council of fifteen members. The Jubilee of the Proclamation is therefore a singularly appropriate occasion for an announcement of the extension of the principle of self-government which is contemplated by LORD MORLEY's Indian Reform Bill. Those who take an interest in Indian affairs will remember that a year ago it was made known that Lord Minto and his advisers on the Council had

recommended for the consideration of the SECRETARY OF STATE reforms which are calculated to gradually prepare the way for the introduction of general self-government. If such a measure should be announced to the people of India on Monday next, as, in all probability it will be, there can be no thought of its immediate application. Such a Bill would have to come before the Imperial Parliament for legislative sanction, and we have had no news, as yet, of its introduction. Possibly the seditious agitation in India has upset the plans of the Government somewhat, and the gift to India which might have been timed for the Jubilee of the Proclamation will have to be deferred until a more settled state of affairs prevails. It appears to be now known in India that Lord MORLEY has adopted the recommendations which Lord Minto and his advisers made to him, and that the elaboration process which these recommendations have undergone in the mind of the SECRETARY OF STATE is in the direction of popularising and not restricting the concessions. "There has been no going back from the spirit of the promise made by Lord Minto in his Budget speech of March 1907. The object is to give in fact as well as in name what shall not only prepare the way gradually for the ultimate introduction of general self-government, but to provide, without delay, a system whereby the responsible administrative officers shall be called upon to defend their actions in debate, and prospective measures shall be discussed *viva voce* in public meeting instead of, as is now often the case, only upon paper in secret before they are finally shaped." It is noteworthy that in the explanations given of the decision not to recognise the occasion of the Jubilee by any important central function, nothing is said of any fear of adding fuel to the fire of the sedition-mongers, though, doubtless, among that class it will be generally ascribed to that consideration. The Government, it is stated, recognises that the close of a bad famine and a time when most of the high officials are making the annual tours of inspection is not a suitable opportunity for an official celebration which, if general, would necessarily involve expense upon the participants. As we have said, the day of the Jubilee of the Proclamation is a singularly appropriate occasion for the announcement of concessions in the direction of an extension of the principles of self-government, even if the operation of the measure be delayed for a time, and this would be a far more acceptable way of marking the event than holding durbars and troop reviews.

TIBET.

(Daily Press, 30th October.)

While the British Foreign Office has been occupying itself upon the European complications likely to be brought about by the declaration of independence of King FERDINAND of BULGARIA, followed by the conversion of the districts of Bosnia and Herzegovina, hitherto held by the Dual Monarchy "in trust" for Turkey, into substantive Austro-Hungarian territory, a minor series of negotiations, yet one not unlikely in the near future to raise complications for our position in India, and Eastern Asia generally, has been going on, practically unnoticed, in Peking. Early in August 1904 a British army took possession quietly of Lhasa; there was no trouble and no fuss, and the troops proceeded to their appointed stations as orderly, and with as little molestation as if they had merely been exchanging barracks. The DALAI

LAMA, nominally the head of the Tibetan Administration, had a fortnight previously taken his departure from his capital, and had left the government of the country in the hands of a regency, and, strange to say, every one, so far from feeling anything the worse, in reality felt much more at ease. The story of the occupation needs not to be retold. For the first time within a century a DALAI LAMA had grown to full age, and had entered on the actual administration of the country; ecclesiastical administration had not proved more successful in Lhasa than it had in any other country where it has been essayed; and one of the first impulses of the ecclesiastical ruler of Lhasa was to seek to wriggle out of his engagements to his acknowledged suzerain, the EMPEROR OF CHINA. It was quite true that China's suzerainty had done no good for Tibet, but even from a Tibetan point of view, the direct rule of the DALAI LAMA had proved only a variation as that from KING STOK to KING LOG. For long Tibet had been a closed country to the rest of the world, and under Chinese influence exclusion had become absolute, and for some century and a quarter, not a single European had contrived to break the mystery of the capital. Such a rule is at best in a state of an unstable equilibrium as an egg temporarily balanced on its small end, where the slightest side strain requires an entire re-adjustment of the whole; and such Tibet found it.

The prisoner undergoing confinement naturally seeks intercourse with his kind, if not legitimately, in any manner possible, and the DALAI LAMA seized the first opportunity that presented itself and opened a clandestine intrigue with his fellow Incarnation at Urga. Unfortunately the Incarnation had a friend; and the friend, he told the DALAI, was just the one wanted and would help him to get rid of his two troublesome neighbours, England and China; as a foretaste of what he could do he passed on certain muskets and small arms which he told the confiding DALAI, were only a sample of what he intended to do for him when the time came. Unluckily the little affair got into the newspapers, and the DALAI was asked what he meant; and, being unable to give any reasonable explanation, the troops went up into Lhasa.

On the 7th September 1904 there was signed a formal treaty, neither very exacting nor very hard. A small indemnity was to be paid, and till it was discharged British troops would occupy the Chumbi valley; trading stations were to be established at two places, Gyantse and Gartok, and the road through the Chumbi valley was to be kept open as a trade route. Moreover, as a security for the Indian frontier, no concessions were to be made to any foreign Power for railways, mines or telegraphs, unless with the knowledge and consent of the Indian Government. It will be seen that in this there was nothing to derogate from the dignity of Tibet as an independent nation, nor to hurt the susceptibilities of any foreign Power whatever. The indemnity, after consultation with the Chinese Resident, who thought it entirely inadequate, was placed by Colonel YOUNGHUSBAND at £500,000 sterling, 75 lacs, and, at the suggestion of the Tibetans, seventy-five years were given for its payment, but it seems it was understood that it might be repaid at any time convenient. The Cabinet selected by the late Sir HENRY CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN was then in power, and no sooner had it received a telegraphic summary of the treaty than it at once telegraphed back, offering the indemnity to be reduced to £25,000 sterling—and this without affording Col.

YOUNGHUSBAND any means of explanation. Up to this the Chinese Government had been well content with the result, but seeing with whom it had to deal it would have surpassed Chinese human nature had it not sought to take advantage of the weakness of the British Government. The first thing it did was to offer to pay the indemnity in three instalments which in the absence of any understanding to the contrary could not be refused. Having occupied this strong point it was able to get its own suzerainty as quietly acknowledged in the widest sense. It might be, and probably was, the fact, that England was thoroughly tired of the whole business, and was glad when China offered to take it off her hands. Be this as it may, it was not the act of a wise ministry to yield up its acknowledged rights without some understanding as to the use to be made of them, which is, in fact, what has been done, and so the matter rests apparently for the moment, China feeling herself at liberty to make any arrangements she thinks fit for a country for some nine hundred and odd miles countermarching with India.

As stated above, when the British troops entered Lhasa, they found the DALAI LAMA gone, and it soon appeared that he had gone to be near to his fellow Incarnation at Urga. Naturally this was not a solution desired by either England or China, and the first reply to it was the formal deposition of the DALAI by proclamation of the Chinese AMBAN from his former temporal authority; which took place on the 11th September. But however formally, and the more formally the worse, such a deposition may be made, the influence which the incarnation of AVALOKITESHVARA can wield in his spiritual supremacy is more than the proclamation of a Chinese Emperor can control, and for the last three years by every means in its power, the Chinese Government has been trying to cajole the DALAI LAMA to return to his deserted flock, but TUBDAN GYATSO, the Lama, has been as coy as the Chinese Government has been persuasive, and it was only within the last few weeks that the last scruples of the Pontiff have been overcome, and he consented to be lured into Peking. It is in some quarters believed that the most tempting bait held out to His Holiness has been the annulment of the formal Treaty made with Great Britain during his absence, and it is said that the course of the negotiations in Peking would seem to indicate that Peking, rightly or wrongly, has indicated to him that he goes back to Lhasa free of every engagement whatever towards England. Now, it seems that the doctrine of the Foreign Office has been that, regardless one way or the other of the Chinese agreement, so far as the treaty with Tibet is concerned, its plain meaning and intent still hold good; but is this really the case? Certainly, if the facts are as stated, China does not hold so, for her negotiations with the DALAI LAMA have been carried on entirely without consultation with the British Minister. The fact rather seems to be that, first through the action of His Majesty's Government in discrediting their own plenipotentiary; and since by our weakness in permitting the recent negotiations with the DALAI LAMA to be carried on in Peking under the eye of our own Minister Plenipotentiary, yet without any consultation or interference on our part, we have practically torn up and treated as waste paper the whole of our formal treaty with Tibet. At the instant this may be a matter of little moment, but in the readjustment of foreign affairs all the world

over, who can tell what to-morrow may turn up, and in what awkward position the next day may find us as to our relations with our Tibetan neighbour? The whole affair may best be described as a Foreign Office bungle of the worst type.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

Poor Hongkong! and her reverse. Fate has been unkind to Hongkong in interport sport this year. Our men failed in shooting and now our chosen eleven have been badly beaten by Shanghai at cricket. Another defeat would be too cruel a blow to our pride. Carr and Beasley, happily, are returning with the laurels of victory in the Tennis matches.

What must the visitor think who enters an office during these days and sees one or two young men dressed in khaki bending over desks or occupied in some other manner. He most likely concludes that the military element is very pronounced. Of course, if he were well informed he would know that the Volunteers are in camp just now, and that there are enthusiasts who pride themselves on not getting out of uniform even when they come to Hongkong to business. That's the material the movement wants. Good luck to them, say I.

Yes, the times are dull, and, as our American friends say, there is "nothin' doing." The Legislative Council has finished its sittings. Scarcely a gleam of brightness comes from the courts, and our only hope is the Sanitary Board. Sometimes it fails us. But I think Mr. Hooper might make another effort. When he was at the Magistracy recently he must have been very hurried and excited or he would have noticed that the courts were not in such perfect order as they might be. He has given the Government a shining up over the Supreme Court. Couldn't he "point a moral and adorn a tale" again?

Talking about soldiers, ahem! reminds me that a detachment of the Cameron Highlanders are here just now, and, needless to say, the sight of their tartan gladdens the Scottish heart. It has always struck me as being very peculiar why the wearing of the kilt in Scotland is one of those rules which is more honoured in the breach—I had almost said breeches—than in the observance. Nobody nowadays wears "the garb of old Gaul" in Scotland except soldiers and a few cockney tourists. Why, when a Scots clothes himself in the more or less hideous garments of the present day, should he be content to have himself represented as kilted and bare-kneed! There is no need for it. Beg pardon. I couldn't help it, the temptation was so strong.

These are the dog days, the days given over at home to the big gooseberry, the mammoth potato, or the sea serpent. That is where the British journals have an advantage over the Hongkong Press. No obliging fisherman or yachtsman or sea-going man comes to the assistance of the pressman with stories of having seen the sea serpent and helps him to fill a column or two with a glowing description of the scaly monster or a thrilling narrative of how narrowly he escaped the jaws of the dreaded serpent. Nobody sees sea serpents here. They only see—No. I won't mention it.

What a diversion we are going to have by and bye. The Y.M.C.A. announce a social evening, the feature of which will be that "all who attend are invited to provide themselves with some distinguishing mark or device which represents the title of some song, and opportunity will be given during the earlier part of the evening for this title to be guessed. The Social Committee have arranged to present small prizes to the lady and gentleman who secure the highest number of correct guesses." I suppose the bald-headed man will represent "A little bit off the top," the elderly spinster will endeavour to expound "Bid me to love," and the disconsolate grass widow will indicate that "My love has gone a-sailing."

Our sympathies must go out to the young Britisher who advertises his wish to make the acquaintance of a Chinese or Eurasian lady with a view to matrimony. He is only twenty-four but still he yearns for his affinity—Chinese or Eurasian—and apparently won't be happy till he gets her. He is particular too. Roman Catholics and triflers need not apply. How unkind! Roman Catholics, I am sure, don't trifle with matrimony. The gentleman veils his identity under the name of "Caledonia." I suppose triflers would make Caledonia stern and wild. I wish him no ill! but I hope he gets his deserts.

When the Highland regiment's went up to North China it was reported that the natives dropped the phrase "no savvy" and adopted "I dinna ken." With similar adaptability the people of Amoy, I am told, are practising a nasal pronunciation and garnishing their speech with such phrases as "waal, I reckon," "that's rather slick," and so on. Some of them have even acquired facility in telling the story "Do you know what the Governor of North Carolina said to the Governor of South Carolina?" "No." "It's a long time 'tween drinks."

By the way, I notice that "The Chronicle and Directory" says that Amoy is considered, even for China to be very dirty, and its inhabitants are unusually squalid in their habits. That is not very comforting to the American visitors, but, doubtless, the warmth of the welcome will make the offence to their noses less pronounced.

A fortnight ago I passed some comment on the clause in the Volunteer Camp orders with reference to permits for servants. I see the subject has been attracting some attention in India, and a Calcutta paper has the following:

"The recent orders issued by commanding officers of the various Volunteer units in Calcutta forbidding members on any account to allow their native servants and coolies to handle their arms and accoutrements will be received with very wide interest in this country. Commendable as is the action of the authorities in this matter, it is a matter for regret that such a step should not have been taken at an earlier date. Nowhere in the history of volunteering, we think, has this omission been so keenly felt as in India, and in no part of the Empire are Volunteers indulged so much as in this country. As one of the Orders says, 'it is almost unsoldierlike to see a Volunteer walking to parade or to the Rifle Range with a servant following in the rear carrying his rifle and it adds that 'any servant found carrying a rifle is liable to be arrested under the Arms Act.' We wish this last clause had been added to every Volunteer Order, and a further sub-clause as follows: 'Any member failing to comply with this order is liable to a fine or court martial.'"

Hongkong Volunteers were never quite so bad as that, but a few pampered individuals avail themselves of the opportunities given for indulgence. Wouldn't it be well to discontinue the system of allowing Volunteers to have servants in camp, and let each man play the game?

RODERICK RANDOM.

IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

When Mr. H. L. Fletcher, Lloyd's Surveyor, was called as a juror at the Supreme Court yesterday, he asked his Lordship's permission to stand down owing to pressure of work.

His Lordship—I am always particularly anxious to excuse from the jury anybody alone in a business in which the public is interested, and if his serving will involve any delay to the public. I think Lloyd's Surveyor should be excused. (To Mr. Fletcher)—Are you the only surveyor here?

Mr. Fletcher—Yes, my Lord, and I could not appoint anybody without permission from London.

His Lordship—What is your work?

Mr. Fletcher—Surveying ships.

His Lordship—How often do you do that?

Mr. Fletcher—Every day.

His Lordship—I think this is a case in which the public is sufficiently interested to excuse you. You can leave.

HONGKONG.

There was not a single case of communicable disease in the Colony last week.

Major-General and Lady Pole-Carew arrived in the Colony on Oct. 26th from Japan by the French mail steamer "Caledonien."

Captain Lyon, the newly appointed Commodore, arrived on Oct. 29th by the "Delhi." The Commodore is accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Lyon, Mrs. May, Mrs. Gompertz and Mr. and Mrs. Murray Bain returned to the Colony by the same steamer.

As the result of the recent quarrel between a number of coolies at the Peak, two of their number who took part in the fight—Ku Leung and Li Shek Shui—were placed before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Oct. 29th on a charge of murder. Formal evidence was heard and the case adjourned.

At the Supreme Court on the 26th inst. before the Chief Justice (Sir F. Piggott) Sir Henry Berkeley moved that Mr. Leonardo d'Almada e Castro be admitted to practise as a solicitor. His Lordship replied—We hear you have passed a very excellent examination. We have very much pleasure in admitting you.

Our readers will be interested to learn that, though it was not possible for the sculptor (Mr. G. E. Wade) to despatch the statue of the Princess of Wales to Hongkong with that of the Queen which has already been forwarded, the former was in the hands of the founders when the last mail left and will be completed as soon as possible.

There was a quiet wedding at the Peak Church on Oct. 29, Mr. J. H. Kemp, First Police Magistrate, being married to Miss Mary Stuart who has but recently arrived from England. Mr. J. R. Wood was the best man, and the bride was given away by Mr. L. Gibbs. The Rev. J. H. France conducted the marriage ceremony. The happy couple afterwards received the felicitations of their friends at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs, and later left for Macao on the honeymoon.

The following dined with H.E. the Governor at Government House on Thursday night:—Mr. Mrs. and Miss Chatham, Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. and Mrs. Konrad von Wiser, Commander Heard, R.N., Commander Borrett, R.N., Lieut. and Mrs. Butterworth, R.N., Lt. Col. Broke, R.E., Captain Butcher, R.A., Captain and Mrs. Proctor, Mr. Gray Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Gale, Mr. and Mrs. Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. Jaffé, Mr. and Mrs. House, Rev. and Mrs. Ennis, Mr. E. C. L. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Northcote, Mr. and Mrs. Clothier, Mr. Simson, R.A., Mr. Ralphs.

The farewell tattoo of the Middlesex Regiment took place on the ground of the Hongkong Cricket Club on Oct. 29th, and was witnessed by a large attendance of spectators, who lined the fence and filled the pavilion, while many to obtain a better view took up a position on the roof, which was reached by means of a ladder. The verandahs of the Hongkong Club and the Annexe were also filled. At ten o'clock, when the tattoo started, the cricket ground presented an animated and pretty appearance, the performance of the soldiers with their vari-coloured Chinese lanterns, combined with the excellent music of the bands, invoking the applause of the large attendance, which included the guests of the dinner at Government House.

Dr. Sven Hedin, the famous explorer of Tibet, arrived in the Colony on Oct. 29 by the P. and O. mail steamer "Delhi", and became a guest of His Excellency the Governor. The distinguished visitor goes northward to day by the same steamer homeward bound via Siberia. Dr. Sven Hedin has made valuable discoveries in Tibet which will be important to England from the strategic point of view. He spoke Yarkandi during most of the journey, and he describes the Tibetans as most friendly, adding, however, that the orders regarding foreigners are most strict. He was obliged, therefore, to burn all his clothes and English boxes, and conceal his maps in sacks of rice. He had also to live on the grain foods of the country. He has, however, saved his valuable maps.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 26th October.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

LANDLORD AND TENANT.

The Chief Justice (Sir F. Piggott) and the Acting Puisne Judge (Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz) sat to hear a motion moved by Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Messrs Ewens and Harston, on behalf of the Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, for leave to set aside a judgment of the Puisne Judge in the action "P. W. Goldring against the appellants" in which his Lordship found for the plaintiff. The action was one in which the plaintiff claimed for damages from the defendants for damage done to his property while he was a tenant of the defendant. Mr. Goldring appeared in person.

The appellants asked that the judgment should be set aside because (1) the Acting Puisne Judge held that the defendants had been guilty of negligence whereby the damage suffered by the plaintiff was caused; (2) he held that the landlords had means of knowing the state of the roof and the gutters whereas the evidence shows there was no means of getting on to the roof; (3) he held that the negligence of the defendants arose from the fact that the damage was caused by the reason that either (a) the pipes had become choked by gradual accretion of matter extending over a long period of time or (b) the obstruction was the effect of the storm of July 29th, 1908, whereby inspection would have revealed the condition of pipes or gutters whereas there was no evidence that the damage was caused by either of the above reasons. Further that the decision was wrong in law that (1) he held no notice was necessary (2) on the facts found by the judge the plaintiff himself was negligent in not giving notice to the defendants of the dampness of the ceiling seen by him; (3) the pipes and gutters on the roof are part and parcel of the flat let to the plaintiff by the defendants; (4) the covenant in the agreement only extends to structural defects of the roof and walls and not to choked pipes.

Sir Henry addressed the court and asked for leave to appeal. The case was one of wide-reaching importance to this Colony and the general principles he submitted then and would press upon the Court later was that the Puisne Judge was wrong in holding that the possession and control of the roof of the verandah and the roof covering the flat did not pass to the tenant under the lease. He would submit that everything which was necessary to the enjoyment of the thing demised, the flat, passes with the demise.

The Chief Justice—That would apply to the third and fourth flats?

Sir Henry—Yes, in succession, but in this particular case it applies to the flat under the roof. I am prepared to admit that it will have to be extended throughout.

The Puisne Judge—You remember the case in which it was not demised.

Sir Henry—That was between third parties.

Mr. Goldring—I appear in person. There is only one point. I submit the appellants are out of time.

The Chief Justice—What is the practice here with regard to appearing in person?

Mr. Goldring—I don't know, my lord.

The Chief Justice—Do you need special leave to appear in person?

Mr. Goldring—No, you can always appear in person.

Sir Henry—I think Mr. Goldring has the right to appear.

Mr. Goldring then quoted the section to the effect that if a person was dissatisfied with a judgment of the Puisne Judge he might within seven days apply to the Full Court for leave to appeal. No application was made to the Full Court for leave within the specified time and the notice was barely filed in time. The Court had already decided the point that application must be actually made to the Full Court within seven days.

The Chief Justice—The Full Court may extend the time.

Mr. Goldring—That is so.

Sir Henry—When was the judgment given?

The Registrar—On the 29th September. Sir Henry—There is no question of time. The judgment was delivered in vacation. The Court fixed the appeal to be heard next Monday.

Wednesday, October 28th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

A MATTER FOR ARBITRATION.

Action was brought by the Ham Suh Wing firm against Tang Chee, otherwise Dang Chee, claiming from the defendant as one of the Committee of the Kowloon Cricket Club the sum of \$744.03, being as to \$30, balance due in respect of a contract for the construction of a club house, and as to \$444.03 for extra work done to the said club house outside the contract.

Mr. Davidson (of Messrs Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs Goldring, Barlow and Morrell) for the defendant.

Mr. Goldring said he wished to raise the point that the matters in dispute had been agreed to be submitted to arbitration, and the proper course was for the case to go to the arbitrator.

His Lordship—Is that in the agreement?

Mr. Goldring—Yes, it is contained in the contract of the principals that doubts, disputes and differences of opinion should be referred to Mr. E. M. Hazeland as arbitrator. The only provisions for arbitration are contained in the Code, in a section of which it is stated that if any party takes legal proceedings the other party can apply to the Court for a stay of such proceedings. I would have made application before, but the plaintiff approached my client and came to my office with a view to having the matter settled by Mr. Hazeland. As a matter of professional etiquette I could not see them, and they decided to go on. I would ask your Lordship for a stay of proceedings. This is eminently a case for Mr. Hazeland to decide the questions in dispute, such as overtime, extras and penalties. The whole case turns on Mr. Hazeland's evidence and nothing else, and I submit that the proper course would be to refer the matter to him.

Mr. Davidson—This is not a case which is provided for by the clause my friend has read at all. The position is this: What is sued for is a sum of \$300, part of the contract price for which a certificate has been given by the architect; and a sum of \$444.03 for extra work, which has also been certified by the architect.

Mr. Goldring—Subject to certain deductions which Mr. Hazeland was to make. The certificate was given in the morning, subject to certain work being completed in the afternoon, but when the contractor got the certificate, he did not finish the work.

Mr. Davidson—It is implied also in the contract that a final certificate shall be conclusive between the parties, and shall close all accounts.

His Lordship (to Mr. Goldring)—You are not contending that these certificates are not good?

Mr. Goldring—No, but this is a matter for Mr. Hazeland entirely. The work is not yet finished, but the certificate was given the contractor on the understanding that he would finish it.

His Lordship—I should have had affidavits.

Mr. Davidson—The statements my friend and I make are statements not proved. I propose to put in the certificates which are perfectly conclusive, whatever Mr. Hazeland may have said or thought at the time. A bill for extra work was submitted to Mr. Hazeland, he made some deductions in red ink, certified the amount as correct, and initialled it. How can my friend go behind that certificate and say that the matter should be referred to Mr. Hazeland?

Mr. Goldring—In that case the form of writ is wrong. The plaintiff should have sued or applied to the Court to have the award made by an order of the Court. Therefore, if my friend contends that, he must be non-suited.

Mr. Davidson—The object of this arbitration clause is that Mr. Hazeland's opinion should be given, and his decision has been given. I submit that this certificate concludes the whole thing.

His Lordship—I don't see how I can do anything without having affidavits before me.

Mr. Goldring—I will file an affidavit by Mr. Hazland, and submit the contract.

Mr. Davidson—I submit your Lordship should hear the evidence.

Mr. Goldring—My friend will have an opportunity of answering my affidavit.

Mr. Davidson—The action might as well be tried now. It is a cheaper way of deciding the question.

His Lordship—That is so.

Mr. Goldring—Very little cost has been incurred in this action so far, and if the parties go before Mr. Hazland no further costs will be incurred.

Mr. Davidson—What my friend's contention amounts to is this: that, because there is an arbitration clause in the contract, when certain monies are found due my client cannot recover them at law; he must go to Mr. Hazland. The arbitration clause is to determine what is due.

His Lordship (to Mr. Goldring)—You claim a set off?

Mr. Goldring—Yes.

His Lordship—I think the matter should be referred to the architect.

Mr. Davidson—On the face of the certificate this money is due, and this is the means of recovering the money. I submit to your Lordship that the counter claim is not a substantial one—only a few dollars.

His Lordship—If that is all, then you get your costs.

Mr. Davidson—In any case, I submit I was entitled to notice of this defence.

Mr. Goldring—The plaintiff frequently approached the principal and Mr. Hazland with regard to a settlement, and I was instructed on Monday morning that the case was going to be withdrawn and submitted to Mr. Hazland. It was only yesterday afternoon that I heard it was not going to be settled by Mr. Hazland.

Mr. Davidson—Mr. Hazland has already been sub-judice by the other side and he advised my client that he had no case. My friend has got to prove that there is some matter unsettled that should be referred to the arbitrator.

Mr. Goldring—As the action stands, it is for money due under the contract, and for extras. The plaintiff does not say anything about the award he should have got. My friend wants to consider the award as a certificate.

His Lordship—If affidavits had been filed, and Mr. Davidson had been given notice, this matter would never have come to Court at all.

Mr. Goldring—If your Lordship does not hold the certificate amounts to an award—

His Lordship—I don't, but I regret you did not give notice.

Mr. Goldring—I would have, but up till yesterday I was informed that the case was going to be settled. I say that this certificate was obtained by misrepresentation on the part of the plaintiff.

Mr. Davidson—How can my friend say there are matters to be referred to arbitration, when on the face of it the whole contract is over? The architect, who has to determine all these matters, has given a certificate.

His Lordship—I think my course is clear. I had better adjourn the case for affidavits to be filed, and will give the plaintiff costs of the day, because I think affidavits should have been filed. It seems to me *prima facie* that Mr. Goldring is right, and that, if affidavits had been filed, I should have made an order.

Argument will be continued in Chambers on Saturday morning.

Thursday, October 29th.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER.

Chung I was indicted on a charge of manslaughter in connection with the building collapse at Shaukiwan. Prisoner, who was not defended, pleaded not guilty, stating that the typhoon brought about the deaths of the 17 persons killed.

The following jury was empanelled:—
J. Witherell (foreman), N. F. S. Harm, E. S. Ford, F. H. Hickman, J. E. Danielsen, W. Nicholls and F. T. Chapple.

Hon. Mr. W. Rees Davies, K.C. (Attorney-General), who was instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (Crown Solicitor), stated that this case arose out of the typhoon of the 27-28th July, the defendant having been committed by the Police Magistrate, sitting as coroner, under the Coroner's Ordinance of 1888, after the death inquiry which had been held concerning the death of these people. The Coroner's jury found a unanimous verdict of gross negligence, which in point of law amounted to manslaughter. Manslaughter was a crime of various categories. It was defined as unlawful homicide without malice aforethought. Malice was the main ingredient in murder, and the absence of malice constituted manslaughter. A lawful act, improperly performed, might amount to manslaughter, and a man by neglect of his duty might render himself liable to be convicted of manslaughter. In such a case there had to be negligence so great as to satisfy the jury that the defendant had a wicked mind in the sense of being reckless and careless whether death occurred or not. The facts of the case were that at about 1.45 on the morning of the 28th July, when the typhoon was blowing with its greatest violence, the back wall of a block of five three-storeyed houses at Shaukiwan collapsed and fell on to three small houses and a boat builder's shed, killing 17 people. The five three storeyed houses, the back wall of which collapsed, faced the main road. The lot on which these buildings stood was not in the old village of Shaukiwan, but in what was known as Shaukiwan West, a district which had recently become of importance on account of the construction of the tram line, and its proximity to the new dock at Quarry Bay. It appeared that in July 1902 the owner of this lot gave notice to the Building Authority, under the Building Ordinance of 1891, at that time in force, of his intention to construct ten Chinese dwelling houses, of three storeys. Plans were prepared at that time by Mr. Brotherton Harker, the architect, were submitted, and after certain alterations were found to be in accordance with the Building Ordinance, and permission was given to begin building in August 1902. The owner, it appeared, after submitting the plans changed his mind, and instead of erecting ten houses which would have covered the whole of the lot, he erected five houses only, and on that side which fronted the main road, leaving the three old houses and the boat builder's shed standing below on the remainder of the lot. The back wall of the new houses was built almost back to back with the back wall of the old houses, but of course, at a very much greater height. Having got the plans passed, Mr. Harker, the architect, had nothing further to do with the work which was taken in hand by the owner. In this case no kind of responsibility attached in any way to the architect. The plans were taken in hand by the owner, who engaged the defendant (formerly a stone mason, and subsequently a building contractor) to build the lower portion of the houses, advise him in their construction, the materials used, and generally to supervise. The defendant in his evidence before the Coroner said he lived near the houses while they were being erected, and only left when they were finished; and he exercised a general supervision over the bricklayers and other workmen. He took upon himself the full responsibility for the construction of the work, for the materials that constituted it, and so forth. The walls of the first storey were constructed of rough granite, and the upper portions of red brick. The defendant supplied the granite and labour, while it appeared that the owner bought the lime, and also purchased the bricks on the advice of the defendant. Shortly after the buildings were started the Public Health and Building Ordinance of 1903 was passed, but no question really arose in regard to it as the owner voluntarily amended his plans of building to comply with the new Ordinance. On June 8th, 1903, Mr. Tucker, on behalf of the Director of Public Works, signed a certificate to the effect that the five houses had been built in compliance with the provisions of the Building Ordinance of 1889. This was after the buildings had been inspected by Mr. Hayward, an assistant engineer in the Public Works department, who was then employed under Mr. Tucker to carry out the

provisions of the Building Ordinance. It would be seen therefore, from the certificate which said that the work had been carried out in compliance with the provisions of the Ordinance, that the houses were designed according to law. He used the word "designed" advisedly, because the superficial examination showed that the buildings had been designed according to law, but an examination after the collapse, showed that the rear wall which fell was very badly built, both construction and materials being faulty.

His Lordship—When was that discovered?

The Attorney-General—After the collapse. This wall, if properly built, would have been a very substantial structure which ought to have withstood almost any typhoon. Certain expert witnesses will be called to prove that the law has not been complied with.

His Lordship—You allege the wrongful act occurred on 28th July, 1903. Is that right? The neglect would have been in 1903.

The Attorney-General—As a result of the neglect in 1903, these deaths were caused in 1903.

His Lordship—The negligence was not committed in 1903. I don't think, in a criminal indictment, you can omit a definite statement as to when the negligent act was committed. In civil law, yes; but not in criminal law.

The Attorney-General—If your Lordship thinks it would be more correct to put the date at the time the buildings were completed, I would apply to amend the date.

His Lordship—I agree with what the prisoner pleaded; that it was the typhoon that caused the collapse. The charge should have been that he was negligent in 1903.

The Attorney-General—I hardly see how that will work out. The result of the negligence was not caused in 1903.

His Lordship—The prisoner is quite right in saying the typhoon did the damage in July 1903.

The Attorney-General—As your Lordship knows, in old indictments for manslaughter it is customary to set out the alleged act *in casu*, and to connect it with the death of the party concerned. Under the existing state of things it is only necessary to allege the killing and slaying.

His Lordship—Then the date should be omitted altogether.

The Attorney-General—It might be met, with your Lordship's consent, by inserting "between the dates of August 1903 and July 28th 1903."

His Lordship—I don't think in criminal law you can say there is any continuing act. If he is liable at all, he is liable for the consequence of his negligent act in 1903.

The Attorney-General—If we allege only the 1903 date, nothing has happened. We cannot allege in the indictment that in 1903 he brought about the death of these people.

His Lordship—The negligence in 1903 brought about the deaths of these people in 1903.

The Attorney-General—I will ask your Lordship's permission to put it in this way: In some day or days between August 1903 and July 1903.

His Lordship—What wouldn't do. He concluded the houses altogether and gave up supervision in 1903 on a certificate being given by the Public Works Department. What powers of amendment have I got?

The Attorney-General—A general power to amend any indictment.

The Attorney-General again proceeded with his address, stating that defects in material construction would contribute to the fall of the wall in a gale. Witnesses would tell the jurors the way a wall should be built to comply with the terms of the Ordinance.

His Lordship—I am afraid I must interrupt you again Mr. Attorney. We must get the proceedings quite right. This is not a prosecution under the Statute, but a prosecution at Common Law.

The Attorney-General—I don't think your Lordship quite apprehends my point. Where the Statute imposes a duty on a man in the nature of a building and that Statute is ignored, there is evidence of negligence. He might perform a lawful act in a negligent manner which may cause death. I am most desirous to

put everything before the jury, and regret the fact that the prisoner has not got counsel.

His Lordship—Therefore it is my duty to point out technicalities. The jury must understand that violation of the Ordinance is only a step towards proving negligence.

The Attorney-General—Supposing the Ordinance did not exist, it would be my duty to submit that if the wall was constructed in a grossly negligent manner, as the prosecution say it is, this man would be guilty of manslaughter. At the time of the typhoon the wall was only five years old, and according to the evidence of witnesses for the Building Authority, the mortar ought to have been at its maximum strength. It had had plenty of time to set, but not enough time to deteriorate. With reference to the position of the Building Authority, under the Ordinance of 1889 the Surveyor-General, who is now the Building Authority or Director of Public Works, is empowered to enter, inspect and survey every building or work during its progress, and to stop the work until any contravention of the Ordinance has been rectified. At the time of the construction of these buildings the building staff was very much undermanned, and undoubtedly there was not the same machinery for inspection of buildings as exists at the present time. Mr. Haggard, who at that time was employed under Mr. Tooker, stated that he did not inspect these buildings until after the 23rd May, 1903, when he received a formal request from the owner to inspect the houses and issue a certificate. He made an inspection of the buildings, which were then completed. At that time he was not permitted to cut into a wall, so that his inspection was necessarily superficial, and it was almost impossible for him to detect flaws in the construction of the wall.

His Lordship—As I read the section, the duty is imposed on the Surveyor-General's department to enter and inspect the progress of the work. I supposed, as you had opened this case of gross negligence, that this insufficiency of mortar would have been discovered, but it could not be, as you now say, because there was a superficial inspection after construction, owing to an insufficient staff in the Public Works Department to carry out the duties laid on it by the Building Ordinance.

The Attorney-General—The jury may be possessed of all the facts I know on the subject. But I submit that any want of duty on the part of Government officials does not exempt the contractor of the buildings from his negligence in the primary duty that is placed upon him.

His Lordship—It makes it all the more necessary to prove gross negligence.

The Attorney-General—I am perfectly aware of that. And I know it very naturally would be urged that it is the duty of the Building Authority to discover whether the work had been neglected and, if it had, to refuse to issue a certificate.

His Lordship—That inspection could only be superficial, because it was not made until the work was completed.

The Attorney-General—The neglect of the Building Authority would not excuse even the primary duty that is placed upon the contractor by the Ordinance, and apart from that, in his ordinary capacity as a builder. Considerable changes have since been made both with regard to the construction of buildings and their inspection by the Government. No building can now be passed as habitable unless an authorised architect has certified that the conditions of the Ordinance have been complied with, and cutting into walls with a view to inspecting their construction is now permitted. A contractor, or a man who takes upon himself the construction of works, has to see that they are properly carried out.

His Lordship—It seems to me, Mr. Attorney, that the jury might just as well have found a verdict of manslaughter against the Surveyor-General or the Director of Public Works.

The Attorney-General—The jury may add a rider to that effect.

His Lordship—I mean the Coroner's jury.

The Attorney-General continued—There is no crime that varies in degree like manslaughter. The question of punishment in these cases is purely one for the Court. A man may be guilty of a most serious case of manslaughter.

ter in which the Court would be justified in sentencing him to penal servitude for life. In cases of gross negligence the Court frequently exercises its discretion by imposing a day's imprisonment or a fine.

His Lordship—There is no case in which a fine could cover gross negligence.

The Attorney-General—If it is not gross negligence it is not manslaughter.

Evidence was then called which was of a similar nature to that adduced at the Police Court.

Mr. H. E. Haggard, after giving his evidence in chief was questioned by the prisoner:

It was the practice to send an officer to inspect the buildings during their progress?—That is so.

If your statement is correct, and the work was not in accordance with the plans, or was badly done, why didn't the officer stop the progress of the work?—He should have seen the bad work and checked it. If what you say is true, how was it that the officer allowed me to go on using bad materials?—I cannot say.

After the completion of these houses, did you call and inspect them?—Yes.

You were satisfied with the work done?—Yes.

And caused a permit to be issued?—Yes.

After saying the houses were well built, and were in a sound condition, why do you go against your own word now?—Because I had not previously seen the inside of the walls.

Don't you think it is your duty to inspect houses carefully and see that nothing is wrong? Why don't you cut a wall open and examine it floor by floor?—Because I am not allowed to cut open walls after a work is completed.

Do you remember about six years ago a block of fourteen houses, of which Mr. Danby was the architect, being completed? After completion the Public Works Department suspected that the walls were badly built: they were cut open, and after that pulled down and rebuilt. I remember those houses.

Why didn't you adopt the same method with the houses in question?—Those houses had big cracks in them.

Then in this case you thought the houses were strongly built?—They showed no signs of failure when I saw them.

His Lordship—In the absence of that Government order would you have cut open the walls?—I most likely should.

But would you?—It was previously the custom to do so.

During the progress of this wall didn't one of the officers of your department inspect the work?—I can't say.

His Lordship (to the Attorney-General)—This man was not erecting the buildings on his own behalf, and he was not the contractor. How are you going to bring the responsibility home to him? According to his evidence he assisted the owner to build the houses, and in a friendly sort of way supervised them.

The Attorney-General—In his evidence before the Coroner he practically undertakes the whole responsibility.

His Lordship—We'll adjourn until to-morrow morning. The case is a little puzzling so far.

The Attorney-General said he did not propose to address the jury as the prisoner was undefended, but he would make some remarks on the legal aspect of the case.

The Jury yesterday brought in a verdict of guilty, but expressed the opinion that the Government at the time was also much to blame and recommended prisoner to the leniency of the Judge on that account.

His Lordship agreed with the Jury's verdict and sentenced prisoner to one day's imprisonment.

DARING ROBBERY AT KOWLOON.

A daring robbery was reported to the police on Monday night. Mrs. Storr of the Victoria Home, accompanied by six school girls, set out to walk from Yaumati to the Victoria Home. Their course was along the Kowloon Road, and it would appear that four natives, who learned that Mrs. Storr carried a sum of money, followed them. When near Ma Tau Wai village the robbers overtook them. One of the men

grasped Mrs. Storr by the shoulders. Two of the others seized two of the elder girls, while the fourth man caught hold of a small girl who carried a black hand bag—the bag that contained the money and valuables. Mrs. Storr and her girls screamed for help, but the robbers had secured the booty, and hastily departed in the direction of Yaumati.

A TOUR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

LECTURE BY DR. WILDER.

Dr. A. P. Wilder, the American Consul-General, delivered a very instructive lecture on the Philippine Islands, last night, at the weekly meeting of the Union Church Literary and Debating Society. In the course of the lecture Dr. Wilder said:—

These islands are very fertile, and agriculture is the industry. It is significant that Java supports twenty eight-million people. Effective colonization there has decreased the death rate and organization has built up families. To develop agriculture is the economic desideratum in the Philippines and lately an agricultural bank has been started by the Government, private parties having declined the opportunity. This bank will make loans to natives to encourage farming operations. The word fertilizer is never mentioned in the Philippines, unlike China. The Spanish friars did considerable in irrigation and some extensive public works are now under way. The 20th century is learning that water is more effective than fertilizer.

Hemp is the chief product of these islands. No other place produces an equally good cordage product. The exports are some twenty millions in gold, the price the United States paid for the islands to Spain, thus fortifying the claim of conquest by the fact of purchase. Leyte and Samar excel in hemp; Albay and Sorsogon are favorite spots and in remote Mindanao one hundred American planters have a Colony in the Davao-District, from which excellent hemp is coming to the Hongkong Rope Works. The plant cannot be distinguished from the banana tree by the inexperienced. It needs shade trees to protect it. When cut down it is stripped by hand, some 5 or 6 inches wide and 6 feet long. Many machines have been devised to expedite the stripping process, but the Eli Whitney of this industry has not yet appeared. Locusts do not eat hemp, nor does fire spread among it and the owner may cut and sell his product at any time during the year. The output has trebled in the last twenty years, and there is no limit. In the Davao District some thousands of the wild men have been encouraged to settle by the planters, and they solve the labour problem to an extent.

The timber resources of the Philippines are fascinating. While the United States boasts of some 600 varieties of trees, the archipelago has over twice that number. Many of them take on a beautiful polish; the hardwood floors of the homes of the well-to-do are beautiful. There are woods equal to mahogany and there is a variety of ebony. Many of the woods are so heavy that they sink in water, and some are so hard that literally it is impossible with ordinary blows to drive a nail in. The round tables six and even nine feet in diameter, common in Manila, could readily be secured for Hongkong. Of course the bamboo and rattan are common. The molave is well called "Queen of the Woods." There are some 30 saw mills in the islands, but lack of labour, transportation difficulties and possibly unwise restrictions explain why thus far, even Hongkong gets but little timber from these islands. Mindoro, Samar, Palawan and Mindanao are the chief sources, although half the whole area of the islands is forested. In northern Luzon, in Baguio, where a summer resort is being developed, there are pine forests.

Sugar is another potentiality. Negros and Panay, the Iloilo District are a chief source of supply. Mr. Taft is not enthusiastic over this industry because it does not develop the people like some others. It is a curious fact that in the largest sugar districts in Cuba the natives are least prosperous. Great capital is needed

to work sugar in a large way. Hongkong gets considerable sugar from the Islands, although Java is its chief source. The processes in the Philippines are crude, only 50 per cent. of the juice being expressed from the cane; centrifugal plants at an enormous expense not yet being introduced. The soil is admirably adapted to sugar, which can be produced at a very low figure and when the United States encourages the industry by a lower tariff and restores certainty among investors, the output will increase.

Rice is the mainstay of the people for food and it is an absurdity that with such admirable lands the islands should import some six millions gold a year in Saigon rice. Even eggs are imported by the inactive Filipino. This money, sent out of the country, if kept at home, would make a brighter industrial outlook. It should be understood that there is no poverty in these islands, as one knows poverty in China. There is no fuel bill to pay, and much food can be had for the picking all the year round. Rice yields in some cases one hundred fold, but the processes are very crude. The pestilence which swept off three-fourths of the Caribou greatly interfered with the rice output, but even now it is from twenty to thirty million dollars. In 1903, a very bad year, the imports in rice were twelve million dollars gold. The government is demonstrating on experimental farms dry cultivation, planting the rice with drills and harvesting it with a self binder, the fields being flooded as needed, but, after all, the Asiatic must work it out his own way. A law compelling every Filipino to grow a certain amount of rice would seem a good one, but compulsory labour is for theorists only in these latter days. The growing of copra, from the coconut plant, is universal. There is an increased demand for the oil obtained from this product. Coconut trees are ever in sight, especially near the sea. They come to bearing in from seven to five years and it is estimated that each tree averages \$1.00 a year profit. The tobacco industry in the islands is in the hands of a few large companies, some of which sell to monopolies as Spain and Japan. There are very large factories in Manila.

Coffee, of which in 1883 7500 tons were exported, is very little grown now. An insect, preying on the stem, appeared in 1892, and while science is ready to grapple the pest, there is as yet no revival in this industry although Philippine coffee is said to be of very high quality. The islands carry gold, which has attracted much attention at the present, especially in Northern Luzon; the Igoroties and others worked copper for centuries; coal and iron are also found. The pearl industry in the southern islands is very profitable to the few and there are many other resources which in good time will come to their own. The imports of the Philippines run from 35 to 40 millions gold a year. The exports are some thirty millions, of which hemp yields two thirds; copra, sugar and tobacco are other items. While Porto Rico enjoys free trade with the United States, these islands have not yet been able to secure it, paying 75 per cent. of the Dingley Tariff imposed on others. Export Duties, forbidden in the United States, are charged on the principal products.

Immediately after the occupation, soldiers were assigned as school teachers and in 1901 543 teachers with degrees came on one steamer. There are now over 800 American teachers and 4,000 Filipino teachers, with 600,000 school children. The school is the principal activity of the towns and the citizens have entered heartily into the idea of uplifting a nation by this plan.

Education, like Christianity is dynamic; it means unrest and ambition; by its nature it wars on absolutism and error. Education and Christianity alike make for individuality, the development of individuals. Consequently they are dangerous propaganda for those who would obscure those movements. All instruction in the Philippine schools is in the English language and now as many children speak English as ever spoke Spanish. The schools have done more than anything else to instill modern ideas. When they began, children of good families came with servants bearing their books. There is a university in Manila older than Harvard and from it select youth have graduated to reflect great credit;

but the educational movement now is for all the people. The people have no literature of their own as yet. There is a Normal School in Manila of 700 pupils with 20 teachers, which is an inspiration for one to visit. There are trade schools in Manila, and in the four other cities of importance. Some hundreds of Filipino youth, chosen by examination, are being sent to America and on their return must serve the Government for as many years as their education abroad continued. Filipino youth are also being trained in West Point. The matter of education of Asiatics in America and England is much debated here. Those who have read "The Broken Road," relating the career of an Indian prince, educated in England, who returned unfit for life among his own people, recognize a study along this line, nevertheless many Chinese youth have had the advantage of foreign study and returned to do their own country good. The matter calls for wisdom, but generally speaking, these people should be educated among their own people where they are to do their work. An admixture of foreign study and observation is valuable for those who can stand it and at the right time. The American teacher usually comes out on a two years' contract at \$1,200 gold a year. Some are soon filled with discontent and the frequent change in this and other departments is uneconomic. The English and Dutch and other colonizers come to stay,—to make a life career.

None of the American achievements excel the setting up of proper courts. There is a Supreme Court of seven, headed by a Filipino with three associates of his race—as able, dignified and blameless men as one can find in any nation. There is a series of courts of the first instance of 14 judges, about four of whom are Americans, the rest natives. These courts yield good results although it is significant that the Filipinos sometimes petition that an American judge may be assigned them. I met the bar of sixteen Filipinos and one American at Iloilo, the former bright men, educated at Manila and abroad. They are loyal to the Government and enthusiastic. American lawyers who have arried Spanish (court proceedings are in both languages) have prospered in the islands.

In the 700 municipalities are justice courts, headed by a layman; a Filipino, where there is necessarily a good deal of blundering and worse. But it was a great thing when the Filipino was able to know the charge against him, face his witnesses and have a speedy trial on the merits of the case. When one sees these things, he concludes that the anti-imperialists of Boston are wrong. I had the same feeling coasting about the islands at night, where 120 lighthouses are now flashing safety as against 25 in the old days.

The Spanish built 120 miles of railroad on Luzon. Already this system has been extended and railroads are being built on three of the Visayan Islands. The effects are already tremendous in civilizing these thickly-populated districts, in bringing crops once sold for what they would bring, to a competitive market. The Government is back of these railroads to the extent of 4 per cent on the bonds. I travelled on all of them. There are neat stations every three or four miles. The verdure is constant and rice fields forever in sight. The natives live in nipa huts, which can be put up for ten or twenty dollars, raised on poles to escape the malaria.

Science is busy in many departments. Manila is completing a five million dollar sewer system and Commissioner Worcester claims that the death rate in that city has been reduced two-thirds. The native local health authorities are brought to Manila to be educated in their line. The Agricultural Bureau has experts dealing with the different crops, with stock farms, etc. The ten thousand lepers of the archipelago have been in part segregated on a remote island, the sexes separated and but-door life the rule. I visited a penal colony in Palawan where 500 men from Bilibid, the largest prison in the world, in Manila, live and work outdoors. Guards are the trusty prisoners armed with nothing but bolos, and one army officer with an assistant controls them all with no show of force. The

men are busied in forestry and farming operations. If this can be done with white men, the absurdity of shutting up our fellows so little different from ourselves on the outside must be abated.

Manila harbour has been improved at a cost of millions; 230 acres of made land increases the water front; the telegraph has been stretched over the islands. The Bureau of Science has thirty six men doing the most advanced work. Cholera, small pox and other diseases no longer run unrestricted in this part of Asia. There is cholera in Manila to-day, but you note that it is brought swiftly under control.

Civil service is the rule. The tendency is to insert Filipinos in all the departments as fast as they are ready for it. The aim of a Filipino boy is to pass examinations and get a Government position, whereas it would be better for him to become a planter. However, this tendency is not unknown in the home land. Whereas the printing office once had 75 Americans; now there are but twenty. The city of Manila is under sharp civil service regulations and an official told me that one of Governor Taft's greatest services was to organize the police force, which carries 200 Americans, on civil service rules, with the result that the police force is more blameless than most cities at home.

FAR EASTERN TELEGRAMS.

DEATH OF A JAPANESE STATESMAN.

Tokyo, October 27th.

Admiral Viscount Enomoto died to-day. The Japan Year Book says of the deceased statesman that he was a pioneer naval officer sent for study to Holland by the Tokugawa Government; returned home in 1866 on board the corvette "Kanyo Maru" built at Amsterdam to the order of that Government. In the civil war of the Restoration he, at the head of that vessel and others fled to Hakodate where for several months he with Otori (now Baron) successfully withstood the attack of the Imperial army; surrendered at the earnest remonstrance of the leader of the Imperial Army and was released after imprisonment of a year or two, to be at once appointed to an important Government post in Hokkaido. Dispatched in 1874, to St. Petersburg to conclude the treaty of exchanging Saghalien with the Kuriles; was Minister at Peking 1882, and sat in almost every Ministerial chair with the exception of that of Army, Finance and Justice.]

COLLISION AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, October 28th.

The steamer "Hanping," which was built by Messrs. W. S. Bailey and Company, collided with H.M.S. "Flora," which was riding at anchor.

The "Hanping" grounded, but was floated later into deep water.

She is now submerged.

THE SU TAN OF PERAK'S STATE JEWELS STOLEN.

Singapore, October 28th.

The State Jewels belonging to the Sultan of Perak have been stolen by burglars at Kuala Kangsar island.

The articles are of great value.

No trace of the thieves has been discovered and a reward of \$1,000 has been issued.

On Oct. 26 the new steamer "Haiyang," recently built at Greenock to the order of the Douglas Steamboat Company arrived here on her maiden voyage. The "Haiyang," which will be placed on the coasting trade, is admirably equipped for passengers and cargo. Her length between perpendiculars is 310 ft 6, breadth 28 feet, depth to spar deck 25 feet, gross tonnage about 2300 tons. Her rig is that of a two masted fore and aft schooner and her propelling machinery consists of one set of triple expansion engines. The steamer presents a very handsome appearance.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Oct. 27th at the Board Room. Mr. C. McI. Messer (President) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G. (Vice-President), Messrs. A. Shelton Hooper, H. Humphreys, Lau Chu Pak, Fung Wa Chun, Dr. Pearce (Medical Officer of Health), Lieut. Colonel Reid, R.A.M.C., and the following officials: Dr. Macfarlane (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), and A. Gibson (Secretary).

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

The COLONIAL VETERINARY SURGEON reported that the outbreak of foot and mouth disease at Kennedy's Dairy was now at an end and he recommended that the Board withdraw the prohibition to sell milk.

The PRESIDENT recommended that after the premises are cleansed they be declared clean.

Mr. HOOPER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

VARIOUS BYELAWS.

The report of the committee appointed to consider amendments to various bye-laws was submitted.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH minuted—I think it better not to allow even cats in dairies. They may contaminate milk in pans by stepping into and drinking it.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—The requirements for floors of bakehouses, dairies, etc., are somewhat vaguely stated. I think the words "a layer of" should be added before asphalt, and "not less than half an inch in thickness" after cement. "Cement mortar" should be substituted for cement.

The PRESIDENT—Dairies include cowsheds, and therefore byelaw 7 should be amended as follows:—"No animal, except cats, shall be kept in any milk store, milk shop, or other place from which milk is supplied, or in which milk is kept for purposes of sale." Regarding dairies, said the PRESIDENT, as the byelaws stand at present, it is not permissible to keep cats. Perhaps members would wish to keep cats out, or they might be agreeable to amending the byelaw.

Mr. HOOPER—Personally, I think we should exempt cats.

The PRESIDENT—At home it is the usual thing to see cats in dairies.

Mr. HOOPER—Quite so.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—Cats may contaminate the milk by stepping in the pans. I have heard that they carry certain diseases but I don't know that it is absolutely true.

Mr. HOOPER thought cats should be allowed in dairies.

The PRESIDENT—No animal except cats.

The Board went into committee to consider the question, and, on resuming, the PRESIDENT moved that no animal except cats be allowed in dairies, and that the amendment suggested by the Director of Public Works be approved.

The motion was agreed to.

AN UNCLEAN HABIT.

Mr. HUMPHREYS brought up the matter of spitting in public buildings, and wished to know what action had been taken by the Board to prevent this too prevalent habit.

When the subject was previously discussed the Board sought to prevent the habit by issuing notices in Chinese. They decided to wait for six months after the issue of such notices and then, if the nuisance was not abated, to take further action.

The PRESIDENT informed Mr. Humphreys that the six months had not yet elapsed.

WHERE FRICTION WOULD ARISE.

The byelaws report was still under consideration when Mr. HOOPER took exception to a remark of the President which was not audible at the Press table. He said the Board had a perfect right to direct its secretary. The secretary was the mouthpiece of the Board to carry out its resolutions and if the Head of the Sanitary Department did not approve of it, and countermanded it, of course, friction would arise. Members would have to consider their position and see what might happen. He thought that distinction was drawn by correspondence from the Government which they intended for the information of the Board

being sent to the secretary, and it was the secretary's duty to lay that correspondence before the Board, apart from whatever views the Head of the Sanitary Department might hold on the matter.

The PRESIDENT intimated that he would not press the point.

BYELAWS FOR DISINFECTED PREMISES.

Byelaws for the disinfection of infected premises, etc., were laid before the Board.

Mr. SHELTON-HOOPER minuted—If the Legislative Council do not place any funds at the disposal of the Board to enable compensation to be paid for the destruction of ceilings, etc. then ceilings, etc., should not be destroyed. See proposed byelaw No. 2 for the prevention and mitigation of epidemic and other diseases.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK—I endorse Mr. Hooper's minute.

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—The Crown Solicitor's first amendment to the removal of patients byelaws necessitated, if adopted, a decision by the Board as to what diseases must be removed to hospital. At present we don't compulsorily remove any enteric patient.

THE PRESIDENT—As to compensation it is governed by section 89. This is a vote on the estimates for compensation to property damaged by disinfection.

Mr. HOOPER said it was very satisfactory to know that the estimates provided for damage to property, but he would like certain words struck out of a suggested byelaw, and the following substituted, "and the owner shall be entitled to compensation." He would move an amendment to that effect.

The PRESIDENT—There point is that this Board cannot spend money except by sanction of the legislature, and the Board itself can stop proceedings under these byelaws.

Mr. HOOPER—We cannot stop proceedings unless we revoke the byelaw.

The amendment on being put, was carried, and the PRESIDENT's motion that it should form part of the byelaw was agreed to.

INSPECTOR'S LEAVE.

The application of Inspector A. Watson for nine months' leave in order to obtain medical treatment at home was laid before the Board.

The Board had no objection and decided to recommend that leave be granted.

MR. HOOPER'S QUESTION.

The reply to Mr. Hooper's question "What number of houses in Victoria and Kowloon remain to be dealt with under sub sections 1 and 2 of section 175 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance" was forthcoming. It consisted of a formidable list of houses extending to 47 pages.

Mr. HOOPER minuted that certain houses mentioned in the return were not erected prior to 1898 as stated in the list.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The death rate for the whole Colony for the week ending 3rd October was 27.8 as against 19.6 for the corresponding week of last year. The death rate for the British and foreign community was 23.7 as against 12.3 and for the Chinese community 28.4 as against 20.4.

RAT RETURN.

The rat return showed that since 1st August 1,369 rats had been killed 16 of which were infected.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK minuted that the Chinese were apparently taking a great interest in rat catching.

Two cases of larceny were reported to the police on Oct. 28, and in each case the victims were relieved of their valuables in the same way. The trick of the pickpockets is worked by two men, who walk on each side of the man they intend to rob. One spits on the victim's shoulder, and then draws his attention to the fact the someone has expectorated on him. After a glance at his shoulder the gentleman takes out his handkerchief to clean his clothing, and while thus engaged the other thief puts his hand in the unguarded pocket and relieves him of his purse. The gentleman, if he is polite, thanks his informer for drawing his attention to the state of his coat, and passes on. It is only when he feels for his purse later that the trick dawns upon him, but then it is too late.

THE NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDO CHINA.

ARRIVAL AT HANOI.

M. Klobukowski, the new Governor-General of Indo-China, arrived at Hanoi on the 20th inst. Both at Haiphong and Hanoi His Excellency received a magnificent welcome. Great crowds assembled to enthusiastically greet him and the streets through which he passed were decorated with flags and foliage, triumphal arches and mottoes. On arrival at the Palace at Hanoi, M. Morel, the Resident General, presented an address of welcome in which recalled the words M. Paul Bert addressed to the Tonkinese people twenty-two years ago—setting forth the programme of French action, and also a circular to the Residents saying: "It is necessary that, not by violent or intermittent manifestations, but by continued action, patient and firm, you shall quickly persuade the people and the Mandarins, of the definite resolves of France, of her keen desire to accomplish all the duties imposed and to us all the rights conferred by the Treaties. You will show them clearly that the time for hesitation has passed and that the regular application of the Protectorate of France opens up for their country, so long disturbed, a new era. Obedience to the royal authority, the scrupulous execution of the laws of the country, the protection of the inhabitants and of their property, respect for local liberties, the re-establishment of security, the development of commerce, of industry, of agriculture, and, consequently, of the public wealth, ought to be the fruits. Further, the interests of Annam and of France are intimately and indissolubly bound together and this fundamental truth you must leave no opportunity, no occasion, public or private, to develop and prove."

To day, added M. Morel, after being the intimate collaborator of M. Paul Bert, after having in different parts of the world, rendered highly appreciated services to the Government of the Republic, you come to occupy the place of him whose premature end we all deplore. Inheritor of his traditions you come to take up his work. You will judge of the progress which, during the period since you laid with M. Constans the foundations of the union of Indo-China, has been accomplished, under the direction of the eminent men who have succeeded him at the head of the country and you will recognise I hope, that, if much remains to be done to realise fully the desires of France, she is entitled to congratulate herself on the results which have already been attained.

May it be permitted to your principal collaborator in Tongking, who in a sphere much more modest, was one of the first assistants of Paul Bert, and has not ceased to remember the gracious hospitality which he received from his director of the Cabinet on disembarking for the first time at Hanoi, to congratulate himself upon having the honour and the great pleasure of addressing you to-day, Monsieur le Gouverneur Général, and of giving to you the formal assurance that among the European population as among the natives your nomination has been welcomed with the liveliest satisfaction.

All have confidence in you; officials, colonists, civilians and military, welcome with joy your arrival. Our devotion is assured; each in his degree, offers you his entire co-operation in furthering the prosperity of this country under the Protectorate of France.

The Annamite Mandarins, upon the loyalty of whom our administration has a right to count in return for the numerous benefits which they have already derived, have looked forward also most happily to see at the head of the Government of Indo-China the son-in-law of Paul Bert whose memory still lives in the minds of the native population.

In the name of all who have worked here to further the renown of France, I bid you welcome, Monsieur le Gouverneur-Général, to Hanoi. I desire most heartily that Tongking will yield all the fertile results under your Government that you can wish.

HIS EXCELLENCY replying said: I thank you, Monsieur le Résident Supérieur. Your words have touched me deeply. The splendid welcome which has been accorded to me as the representative of the Republic by the beautiful town of

Hanoi goes to my heart. You have saluted also the memory of a man who has left here among all those who came in contact with him a lively remembrance. Collaborator of Gambetta during the terrible year and in the councils of the Government, an illustrious savant, Paul Bert did not hesitate a day to leave France to come himself to transform into action the proud words which he pronounced from the tribune of Parliament: "When the national flag is planted anywhere it ought not to be lowered or disregarded."

Many of us can recall with what brutality the death of this grand citizen was encompassed. As General Mucier said, speaking at his grave: "He has fallen as the soldier upon the field of battle, as the sailor on the quarter deck. His name is added to the long and glorious list of names which includes Francis Garnier, Balny, Riviere, Berthe de Villers, Courbet, Borgnis-Desbordes, Rousseau and many other valiant officers, officials and colonists who have helped to establish in this country the Protectorate of France under which, in the interests of the territory itself, it must remain."

I see that by these words I enter immediately into communion with all your thoughts: you understand, in effect that from this simple invocation of the past comes a lesson of noble abnegation and pure patriotism.

You understand that at over and above all, dominating all the quarrels, the discussions, the rivalries, mean and vain, there is the interest of the country. It is to serve this superior interest, as I said at Saigon, at Hue in the presence of General Piel and just now at Haiphong, that I come to apply here a policy of goodwill, of concord and of union between all good citizens, between all well-wishers. This policy is the basis of the liberties and the rights of each, favouring useful enterprises and the employment of suspended activities in the quickest and best possible way; but it demands, in return, absolute respect of the law, regarded not only as the expression of the wish of the nation, the protector and the educator, but as the necessary safeguard of the general interests and, therefore, should be obeyed by all. It demands also respect for the authority who, interpreting the law with benevolence, applies it and will continue to apply it, I give you the assurance, with a firmness which will not be relaxed.

Those of you who know me know I am a man of no party, that I am not wedded to any system, but, of the work of my predecessors—Constans, my former chief, de Lanessan, Paul Doumer, or my friend Paul Beau—I will retain all that can be retained and adapted to the present situation. You know also that I am a pronounced adversary of a reign of outrage and violence, as of those utopias dear to those whom the Greek poet called "the cloud gatherers"—theories which can only raise ambitions, and appetites which we cannot and ought not to satisfy. I have no other pretension than to be a man seeking in good faith practical solutions and believing that it is his duty as a good citizen to allow nothing to prevent their application. You will aid me in this search, you will sustain me in this effort. I appeal to you all to this end, to your good sense, to your spirit of solidarity and also to the sentiments you ought to have of your true interests in this country.

Be, in a word, as I hope to be myself, collaborators with the nation. With me, form, constitute and organise the bloc of Franco-Annamite interests: that is all my mission. When we have attained that result we can regard the future with serenity, supported upon our good right, upon the force sanctioned by this right, confident in the high destiny of our country,—come what, may, we shall rest unperturbed.

As for myself, recalling to memory the history which treats of human existence, where generations which have gone passed, as a *mot d'ordre* to those who followed, the ancestral traditions, I have received the torch from a hand which is dear to me and I pray that I may not let it go out.

"Vive la République!"

His Excellency also addressed Annamite notabilities, reminding them of the words of Paul Bert, as quoted by the Resident Superior, and assured them that those sentiments still animated the administration. The aim of

France was to associate them more and more closely with the efforts of the administration in all things. They would find France always benevolent and just, and he would ask them in return to show themselves always respecters of order, of law, and of authority.

Addressing the Chinese, His Excellency said that he highly regarded their commercial probity, their practical spirit and their activity. He knew them well and he had remarked that when they went into a country, if it had no commerce they created it, and if it was in existence they developed it. They had in Indo-China a privileged position which would be preserved to them, but on the condition that they occupied themselves with their affairs, leaving politics alone and carrying on no illicit trade. If they observed these things, they were sure of always finding under French authority a very good welcome.

THE DAIRY FARM CO., LD.

The twelfth ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders in the Dairy Farm Co., Ltd. was held at the Company's depot, No. 2, Lower Albert Road, at noon yesterday. Mr. E. H. Hinds presided, and there were also present Dr. J. W. Noble (directors), Messrs J. Walker (manager), S. A. Seth (secretary), W. D. Graham, J. M. F. Machado, P. Tester and Chan Tong.

The notice calling the meeting was read by the SECRETARY.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, The report and accounts have now been in your hands for some days and I ask your permission to adopt the customary course and take them as read. The result of the year's working has, I am pleased to say, proved satisfactory, showing an increase on the preceding year. We again had some anxious weeks early in the year, during which our old enemy, rinderpest, played havoc with a part of our herd. Thanks, however, to our manager's experience and vigilance, many valuable beasts were successfully nursed and recovered from the disease. These animals, I might state, are now immune for life from rinderpest. Our business, notwithstanding the depressed condition of trade throughout the Colony, is ever increasing, not only in Hongkong itself but with exports, from which it may be inferred we give satisfaction to our customers. I do not think it would be out of place here for me to state that we attempt to supply the best that can be produced, and in regard to our milk we guarantee that no preservative of whatever kind has ever been used by us. Considering the large distribution and the area over which this distribution takes place, it is a matter of satisfaction to your Directors and Staff that irregularity of delivery is practically non-existent. Our frozen meat business has also increased, not so much in regard to local consumption, owing, no doubt, to the antagonism of the native servants who see the possibility of loss of squ-exe, but particularly in connection with the large passenger steamship lines, who find our supplies of a better quality and more economical than the local meat. On comparing the balance sheet with that of last year you will have noted the book values of cattle, buildings, property and machinery have advanced considerably. These advances have been due to outlays in improvements and expansion which were necessary owing to increase of business. The book values referred to are well within their actual value, so that your Directors have not deemed it necessary this year to set aside any portion of the profit shown towards their reduction, but recommend instead, the transfer of \$40,000 to reserve, to be eventually merged into Capital as outlined in the circular letter already sent out to shareholders. This matter will be more fully dealt with at another meeting, notification of which will be forwarded to you in a few days. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer, to the best of my ability, any questions shareholders may wish to put regarding same.

No questions were asked, and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. GRAHAM—I have much pleasure in seconding the motion. There can be no doubt that the Company is most ably managed, and

the statement before us reflects the greatest credit on all concerned. I am sure you will all agree with me.—(Hear, hear).

The motion, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Mr. MACHADO, seconded by Mr. WALKER, and agreed that Dr. J. W. Noble and Hon. Mr. E. Osborne should be re-elected directors.

Mr. W. Hutton Potts was re-appointed auditor on the motion of Mr. THURTELL, seconded by Mr. CHAN TONG.

The CHAIRMAN—That terminates the meeting, gentlemen. Thank you very much for your attendance. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow.

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY LIMITED.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Limited, will be held in London, on the 28th October 1908, when the Directors' report and accounts for the financial year ending February 29th 1908, will be submitted.

EXTRACT FROM DIRECTORS' REPORT.

The net result of the year's transactions shows a balance to the credit of profit and loss account of £184,414, made up as follows:—

Net profit, after providing for all charges in China	£223,296
Add balance brought forward from last year	£ 4,566
Gross receipts in London	8,963
Total	£231,815
Deduct expenditure in Europe, Salaries, stores, etc	£ 6,379
Debentures, interest	24,583
Debentures, redemption	10,000
Directors' fees	8,018
Legal expenses	8,500
	47,401

Leaving a net balance of £184,414
Which the Directors recommend should be appropriated as follows:—

In placing to reserve for depreciation (making a total reserve of £175,000)	£25,000
In paying a final dividend of 1/8 per share paid (free of tax) payable 2nd November 1908	75,000
Making a dividend of 15 per cent for the year with the interim dividend of 1/8 per share paid on 1st May 1908	75,000
Directors' percentage on profits in accordance with Articles of Association	5,485
And carrying forward	8,929
	£184,414

A SANITARY OATH.

DEPARTMENTAL HEAD'S INSTRUCTIONS.

When Inspector Allen of the Sanitary Department was called to the witness stand in the Supreme Court yesterday, he did not wish to take his oath on the bible, but asked to be allowed to affirm. He said he had been instructed by the head of his department to swear with his right hand raised.

Mr. Justice Gomperts—I don't know what he has to do with it.

Mr. Hodgson—Do you object to swear in any other way?

Mr. Allen—No, I don't.

Mr. Hodgson—Who gave you those instructions?

Mr. Allen—Dr. Atkinson, when he was president of the Sanitary Board. He instructed me to swear in Scottish fashion as an example from a sanitary point of view.

His Lordship—Oh! You don't object to be sworn the other way?

Mr. Allen—No.

The witness then kissed the book, and the case proceeded.

THE TRAGIC AFFAIR IN KOREA.

The *Tokyo Asahi* is authority for the statement that Prince Ito, the Resident-General in Korea, General Marquis Katsura, the Premier, and General Viscount Terauchi met on the 10th instant to consider a rather serious blunder alleged to have been committed by the Japanese troops in Korea. According to the report, a party of the Iashin-kai (a pro-Japanese Association) were travelling in a certain part of Korea for the purpose of paying their tribute to the grave of a Korean sage. The Japanese gendarmes took the party for a band of rioters and consequently subjected them to examination. They were, however, released later, the gendarmes being satisfied with the replies to their questions. Shortly after the party were released some Koreans gave the gendarmes secret information that the men were a band of rioters. Acting on this information, the Japanese troops pursued the party, and finding them resting by the roadside, fired on them, killing every member. It was subsequently proved that the party were bona-fide members of the Iashin-kai and the informants themselves were none other than rioters. The report having reached Prince Ito, a conference was held in Tokyo to consider matters relating to the payment of compensation and to taking steps to give satisfaction.

The paper also publishes a detailed account of the incident. It is stated that on the 7th instant Ho Chinkyo, the chief priest of a local branch of the Jiten sect and thirty-three followers started on a pilgrimage to the head temple of the sect located at Gyokudo, in Jemra Hokudo, Korea. On their way thither the members met a party of Japanese gendarmes at the town of Shisho, and informed them of the object of their journey. The party, arrived at a town named Kyosanri rather late in the afternoon, and resolved to stay there for the night. Learning that a party of Japanese cavalry were stationed in the neighbourhood, a messenger was sent to them to report their mission. The messenger did not return to the party but shortly after a body of Japanese cavalry arrived in the town and attacked the party in their lodgings, killing twenty-one by either shooting or stabbing them. Only twelve members of the party, who happened to be staying at hotels some distance away, escaped the massacre. The survivors reported the affair to the chief priest of the sect, and the news was subsequently transmitted to Li Yokyu, President of the Iashin-kai, now staying in Tokyo.

Li Yokyu, when interviewed by a Press representative in Tokyo, said that telegrams continued to reach him from Seoul asking his immediate return to Korea to consider remedial measures. He had wired back warning the people to keep quiet until his return and not to entertain any grudge against the Japanese troops, as the incident must have occurred through a mistake or as a result of false information. He would fully investigate the matter before deciding on future action, as there was no reason why the Koreans should be killed like dogs.

KULANGSU (AMOY) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council, held at the Board Room, on the 6th October 1908.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Chairman), A. C. V. Bowra, W. Kruse, S. Okuyama, W. Wilson and the Secretary (C. Berkeley Mitchell).

LICENSING CHAIR COOLIES.

On the motion of Mr. KRUSE, it was decided to frame a scheme for licensing and registering chair hongs, chairs and chair coolies.

POLICE REPORT.

The SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE reported that the following cases had been dealt with at the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—Summonses; Allowing pigs and cattle to stray 4; obstructing the public drain 3; breach of bye-law 15 (disorderly house) 2; breach of agreement 1. Summary Arrests. Breach of new opium regulations 3; being on enclosed premises for an unlawful purpose 1; contempt of Court 1.

THE PROPOSED SMALL POX HOSPITAL AT KENNEDY TOWN.

The Government has granted to the Tung Wah Hospital Committee a site of about 60,000 square feet at Kennedy Town for a Small Pox Hospital. In recent years a matted on the hill just beyond the Plague Hospital has been used for the isolation of small-pox cases, but in the typhoon of July last this matted collapsed. It is now proposed to build a hospital which is roughly estimated to cost between \$50,000 and \$60,000, giving accommodation for about sixty patients. Towards the amount needed, \$8,400 has already been subscribed, and the Committee of the Tung Wah Hospital, is gratefully acknowledging these donations, which are set out below, appeal with confidence to the community, Chinese and European alike, for contributions which will justify them in making an early start with the building operations. The donations already received are as follows:—

Mr. Ho Kom Tong	\$3,000
Sing Wo & Co.	2,000
Yan Wo & Co.	1,000
Chat Sing & Co.	1,000
Messrs Chan Chet Yü	
Chan Kan Yü	1,400

DEATH OF THE HON. C. S. NAPIER.

We regret to record the death, in tragic circumstances, of the Hon. Cecil Scott Napier, eighth son (by the second wife) of Field-Marshal Baron Napier of Magdala, and half-brother of the present Baron. Mr. Napier, the *N. C. Daily News* of the 19th inst says, was admitted to the Shanghai General Hospital about two weeks ago suffering from dysentery, from which he was recovering when he had an attack of malaria. The patient became very depressed last week and on Friday he referred to the making of his will. During that night he was very restless and the nurse who was with him was the auditor of several rambling statements by him. Mr. Napier occupied No. 18 room, which is in the first-class on the third story and a corner room facing Soochow Creek. About 6 a.m. the nurse left her patient for a little while and during that interval the patient in the next room saw a man in pyjamas walk along the corridor in front of his room and mount a long rattan chair which was near the verandah boarding. The other patient did not anticipate anything untoward taking place, but his attention was again drawn to the spot by hearing a noise and looking up he saw the man in the pyjamas disappearing over the verandah. The alarm was given at once, but some Chinese had heard Mr. Napier's fall into the courtyard, and when they rushed to him, he was dead, the head having been terribly injured. Other assistance was immediately forthcoming, but it was of no avail.

Late in the morning, H. B. M.'s Coroner, Mr. G. W. King, opened an inquest on the body, but adjourned his inquiry, after the evidence of one witness had been taken, until Tuesday next.

The Hon. Cecil Scott Napier was born on April 13, 1876 and he joined the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs in 1898. Last year he went Home on leave and while there he was appointed to the London Office. After six months' service in England he applied for transfer back to China. He returned here some weeks ago and was appointed Deputy Assistant Commissioner of Customs at Wenchow. He was on the point of going to Wenchow when he fell ill and entered hospital. Mr. Napier was very popular in the service, and his death in such pitiful circumstances is deeply deplored.

To meet the artistic taste of the officers of the American fleet one of the leading silverware firms of Yokohama originated a novel design in cocktail shakers fashioned in silver ware. By request of the Prohibition Party in Japan these shakers have been also adapted for the preparation of lemonade and lime juice beverages. We have the authority of the *Japan Gazette* for this statement.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

October 23rd.

A MATTER FOR CONSULAR INQUIRY.

According to Treaty Regulations any foreign merchant in China, desiring to convey native produce purchased inland to a Treaty Port for exportation to foreign ports or countries, is required to pay half-duty for transit of the goods to the Treaty Port in addition to the export duty.

In order to obtain these outward transit passes from the Customs Bureau the foreign merchant is required to furnish a bond to the I.M. Customs for six times the amount of duty on the goods intended to be exported and undertake not to dispose of the goods, or any portion, en route to its destination or at the Treaty Port under the penalty of being fined six times the amount of the duty chargeable on them. The merchant is also liable to the same fine if the goods are not exported or if the unused transit passes are not returned for cancellation to the I.M. Customs at the expiration of six months. These transit passes are obtained from the Customs Bureau by merchants through their Consuls. The Bureau forwards the passes to the Commissioner of Customs, who, on receipt of them, notifies the Consul who then informs the merchant that the passes have been granted and he will proceed to the Consulate to execute the bond which he then delivers to the I.M. Customs in exchange for the passes and signs a receipt for them.

I do not know whether other foreign Consuls charge their merchants any fees for obtaining the transit passes or not, but at the British Consulate a fee of three shillings is charged for every transit pass issued to British merchants.

Owing to the keen competition in the West River steamship trade the newly-established Chinese steamship companies in Wuchow have recently obtained privileges for their Chinese clients (shippers) to obtain outward transit passes from the Customs authorities there. They are not required to sign the usual bonds, but, on deposit of 300 taels, are allowed to obtain 2,000 passes and for 500 taels they may obtain any number of passes above that amount. The passes are obtained direct from the Customs authorities and no charges are made for obtaining them and there is no delay in issuing them. These privileges have hitherto been denied to Chinese merchants and a precedent has now been established. This will naturally throw all the trade in the hands of Chinese steamship concerns.

THE IMMIGRATION OF CHINESE INTO CANADA.

Recently, H. R. the Viceroy received a dispatch from the Wai-wu-pu stating that the Canadian Government had informed the Central Government that the immigration law of the Dominion had been amended and that all Chinese students who proceed to Canada in future for education purposes must possess a knowledge of the English language and have a high school education, otherwise they will have to pay the usual immigration tax of \$500. When the Wai-wu-pu was informed of the matter they considered the amended law might impair the friendly relations which have hitherto existed between the people of the two countries. They accordingly telegraphed to the Chinese Minister in London requesting him to communicate with the British Government on the subject. The British Government replied that the former Canadian Immigration law distinctly laid down that all Chinese students who go to Canada to acquire an education must enter one of the local schools for at least one year before they are permitted to travel to any other places in Canada; failure to comply with the law made them liable to the poll tax. Of late years numerous Chinese labourers, taking advantage of that law, falsely declared themselves students and would enter into one of the schools for a short period so as to avoid paying the emigration tax and afterwards travel to some other place and become labourers. If stringent laws are not enforced to guard against such people it would be impossible to discontinue between Chinese labourers and students entering Canada.

The Chinese Minister in London telegraphed this information to the Wai-wu-pu and

requested compliance with the request of the Canadian Government.

His Excellency Viceroy Chang, on receipt of the above dispatch, instructed the Literary Chancellor of the Kwangtung Province to place the matter on official record and issue notifications to that effect.

October 26th.

TORTURE.

The Grand Council in Peking has sent a dispatch to H.E. the Viceroy stating that they have received an Imperial Edict which states that certain persons have again memorialized the Throne that strict orders may be given to all the officials to stop the infliction of torture for the purpose of extorting evidence and confession from witnesses and prisoners, and also that rigid measures should be adopted to stop the officials from extorting money from litigants. The dispatch enjoins the Board of Punishment, Viceroys and Governors of all the provinces to see that the Imperial Order is strictly carried out so that these evil customs may be abolished forthwith, thus having compassion on the people. A copy of the original memorial was enclosed in the dispatch for the Viceroy's perusal. It is reported that His Excellency Chang has already given instructions to the Provincial Treasurer and Judge and the Salt Commissioner to make inquiries if torture is still being used in any of the yamens in the Kwangtung Province. It will be remembered that in the beginning of the year 1906 Com. Z. Volpicelli, Italian Consul-General for Kwangtung, Kwangsi and Fokien Provinces, published, in Chinese, a pamphlet containing essays on the subject of torture for the purpose of extorting evidence, exposing its uselessness and barbarity. Thousands of these pamphlets were distributed amongst the Chinese officials, gentry and students gratis. Several officials, realizing the truth of the statements, memorialized the Throne to abolish the barbarous practice, and in response an Imperial Edict was issued commanding the officials to abolish the infliction of torture in all the yamens. The Chinese Press announced their gratitude for Com. Volpicelli's good work through the medium of their newspapers.

[Only last week our correspondent reported a case at the Nam-hoi Magistracy in which a witness, a woman, was subjected to torture.—ED.]

A HIGH OFFICIAL'S FATHER KIDNAPPED BY PIRATES.

Mr. Sin Ting, father of Sin Ying Fan, Secretary of the Foreign Office in Tientsin, was kidnapped by the notorious Pirate Chief, Luk Lan Ching, from his house in the Wong Ting village near Canton some time ago. Luk demanded \$40,000 ransom for the release of the old man who is over 80 years of age. His son in Tientsin reported the matter to Mr. Tsai Shew Ki, Taotai of Tientsin, who has sent many telegrams to Viceroy Chang requesting him to cause rigid search to be made for Mr. Sin Ting Ping and obtain his release. So far his whereabouts are unknown. Yesterday the Board of Revenue in Peking cabled the Viceroy that the man must be found and released at all costs. The Viceroy has given 15 days to the Nam Hoi Magistrate to see that the captive is found and delivered under penalty of being cashiered. Colonel Li Sai Kwai who was recently reinstated by the Viceroy has also been deputed to Sai Chew to make investigations into the matter.

PROVINCIAL PAPER MONEY.

It is reported that the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha here have already delivered \$3,000,000 worth of Chinese notes, redeemable in subsidiary coin, to the Provincial Treasurer of Kwangtung. They are all \$10 and \$5 notes and will be circulated in the Canton market during this month.

BOYCOTT NOT ABATING.

At a meeting of the Canton Cooks Guild the other day the chairman said he was in receipt of a letter from Doctor Hui of Hongkong which stated that cholera had broken out in Amoy. In future when purchasing provisions for their masters they should be careful in making their selections. Sea delicacies contained germs. They were indigestible and had very little nourishing power in them. Taken as food they were injurious to health. Consequently foreigners never had them on their tables. It was high time that the Chinese people

also gave up eating such things; moreover it had been proved in Hongkong that many people had been poisoned through eating sea delicacies and died from the effects thereof. Therefore, in future, if the brethren of the Guild were discovered purchasing sea delicacies for the table, or any other food that was indigestible, they would be treated as uncivilized men and would be liable to a monetary fine which would be imposed by the Guild.

The Medicine Guild of Canton has sent the following express to the members of the Guild:— "We beg respectfully to inform you that from the 20th day of this moon (10th moon) if any of the managers or employees of medicine shops are discovered purchasing goods of a certain country (Japan) they will be immediately dismissed from service and will not be permitted to find employment in any medicine shops again. If proprietors of medicine shops are discovered doing it, they will be ostracised for ever. All members of the Medicine Guild are respectfully requested to obey this."

FIFTEEN PIRATES BEHEADED.

On the 24th instant fifteen pirates were carried in baskets to the execution ground by order of the Nam Hoi and Poon Yu Magistrates. Eight prisoners were taken from the Nam Hoi jail and seven from the Poon Yu. It was noticed that the Nam Hoi prisoners looked clean, neat and well-fed in contrast with those from the Poon Yu who presented the usual pitiable appearance of Chinese prisoners. This plainly shows that the Poon Yu Magistrate has neglected to carry out the law reforming the prison administration.

OFFICIAL MATTERS.

Owing to the increase of international affairs here, His Excellency Viceroy Chang has appointed two special operators in the Telegraph Department in the Viceroy's Yamen to decipher telegrams relating to international matters so as to prevent secret and important messages leaking out.

His Excellency King Fung, Tartar General here, is in receipt of a cable notifying that an Edict promotes him to be Minister of the Imperial Palace in Peking.

Lieutenant Tartar-General Chong Kin of Canton has been granted three months' leave by the Throne to cure his opium smoking habit.

The Board of Revenue in Peking has cabled to the Provincial Mint of Kwangtung to cease minting the new dollar coins and to coin instead 1 tael and 5 mace coins.

October 27th.

NEW CHINESE CONSULATES.

One of the Chinese papers here mentions that the Wai-wu-pu has established a Chinese Consulate at New Orleans and has directed inquiries to be made with a view to establishing consulates at Saigon, Haiphong, and in Java to afford protection to Chinese subjects.

The Foreign Office is issuing instructions on the subject mentioned Saigon as being in close touch with the provinces of Kwangtung and Fokien and as being one of the most prosperous business centres in Annam. Of recent years the Tonkin Government had enacted new oppressive laws, the Chinese people there being looked upon as "fish and meat." No Chinese schools nor even a chamber of commerce has been established by the Chinese in Saigon yet, this being due to the stern and severe attitude adopted by the Government. The Chinese people are oppressed and stand so much in awe of the Government that they dare not start these institutions; besides there is a want of union amongst the Chinese there. The despatch goes on to say that Haiphong is not far from the Provinces of Kwangsi and Yunnan. Roads and waterways connect these two provinces and there is also the Tonkin-Yunnan railway. Affairs in Yunnan and Kwangsi appear to be controlled by the French Government. As to Java, it is one of the most important of the southern Islands. There has been an emigration of Chinese to Java for several centuries. They have cultivated the land and developed trade there. Of late years the Dutch Government has passed numerous new laws and appointed native officials to control the Chinese with the intention of putting a yoke on the Chinese so as to compel them to quit the island and return to their native country. The measures adopted by the Dutch Government for

this purpose are most atrocious and inhuman; therefore it is absolutely necessary to appoint Chinese Consuls in the above mentioned places without further delay so as to regain lost prestige.

It is reported that the Viceroy has received a dispatch to that effect.

GERMAN COLLEGE FOR CANTON.

It is reported that a German College will soon be established in Canton. The German Consul called on the Chief Superintendent of Police (Wong Taotai) yesterday and discussed the proposition and the selection of a suitable site.

AN AFFORESTATION SCHEME.

Last year the Director of the Reclamation Bureau had 50 trees planted on the new bund. As the Bureau had no funds the Bureau of Local Affairs was obliged to pay the piper. Most of the trees that were planted have either been stolen or destroyed and a good portion of the bund is still without trees. A public subscription is proposed to enable the authorities to complete the tree planting scheme.

I. M. CUSTOMS.—CHINESE TIDEWAITERS.

The I. M. Customs here commenced to employ Chinese tidewaiters last year. Five Chinese students who passed the competitive examination at the Custom House last year received these appointments. Recently five more Chinese tidewaiters were required and the examination took place to-day. There were nineteen applicants for the vacant positions.

October 28th.

THE OPIUM CRUSADE.

At a general meeting of the Association for the suppression of Opium Smoking the other day an official who was present said that it had been the earnest desire of the Emperor to suppress opium smoking. As His Majesty had already issued several Edicts commanding the suppression of opium smoking it was the duty of the officials to see that the Emperor's wishes were properly carried out. The speaker further said that Wong Taotai, Chief Superintendent of Police, had given him verbal instructions to inform the members of the Association that although many deputies had been appointed to make strict inquiries to find out if any of the officials continued to indulge in that evil habit, it was yet feared that their efforts would not be effectual. Wong Taotai had therefore requested him to ask the members of the Association to assist the officials in this investigation to discover if any of the officials from the rank of sub-Prefect downwards, whether holding permanent positions or waiting for appointments, indulged in the baneful habit of smoking opium. If any of the members of the Association had substantial proofs that any of them still continued to indulge they were respectfully requested to telephone to the Chief Police Station at any hour of the day or night and upon receipt of such information the Chief of Police would immediately attend to the matter and see that the delinquent official was severely punished.

[Note. The Chief Superintendent of Police is an official of the fourth rank and only has jurisdiction over officials under that rank; hence his instructions "to investigate and find out if any of the officials from the rank of sub-prefect downwards."]]

AMBITION OVERLAPPING ITS LE.

A local Chinese newspaper here says that of the four gunboats ordered by the Provincial Government from Hongkong last year for patrolling the West River, the two built by the Chinese firm of Kwong Hip Loong have a greater speed by two knots an hour than the vessels built by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company Limited. This, says the writer, shows that the work of the Chinese firm is much superior to that of the foreign firm. The article proceeds to say that the Chinese have hitherto recognized the superiority of knowledge and workmanship of foreigners in the manufacture of all kinds of articles as well as in the construction of vessels; consequently the Chinese people have preferred and striven to purchase foreign manufactures thus allowing enormous profits to go to foreign countries. Foreigners know that the Chinese are an intelligent race and they have been alarmed at their potentialities. The only drawback of the Chinese people is that they do not take sufficient

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co. of Shanghai in their latest Piece Goods Report, dated Shanghai 23rd October, states:—Nothing has occurred during the interval to enliven the market in any way, and even the clearing up of the weather has not caused any material improvement in deliveries. The stringency in the money market has been more accentuated latterly, owing to the failure of two small Native Banks in Nampo, and the suspension of payment of the Hong Yu Tu-tian, with liabilities of Tls. 395,000, referred to in our last has not yet lost its influence. The Hong carried on a business in flour and general merchandises in addition to piece goods, and, as several wealthy men here are known to have had shares in it, it is not anticipated that the eventual loss will be very extensively felt. The native bankers, however, are still acting with the greatest caution and will only grant accommodation to the very best firms, and that only to a very limited extent. Some arrangements must have been made, however, to renew loans, for it is now three days only to the end of the month and nothing has transpired as to the trouble that was anticipated in that connection. No advices appear to have been received concerning the progress of the "look-out" in Lancashire, but in the meantime Manchester keeps firm, and counter offers from this side meet with little or no consideration, though at the quotations given fairly early delivery can be obtained, January and February shipment for instance. The Liverpool Cotton Market is keeping up fairly well, quotations at the close yesterday being 4.97d. spot and 4.57d. January and February for Mid-American, while Egyptain has advanced another sixteenth to 7½d. The market for Piece Goods in New York is firmer in consequence of a good home demand, which, however, seems to affect some weights more than others. Several quotations have come to hand, but the only business that appears to have come to anything is the available stock of the Abbeville goods at gradually strengthening prices. The latest quotations received for cotton in New York are 8.72 cents for January and 8.82 cents for March, which is slightly over the equivalent of the Liverpool quotation, and shows an advance during the week, in spite of the pessimistic views that were held owing to the heavy arrivals of the new crop. The one and only cheering feature about our market is the unmitigated demand for Indian Cotton Yarn. In spite of the efforts native holders have made to depress prices Foreign Importers continue to have their own way and seem to find it easy to manipulate their holdings. This is the more satisfactory as it is in face of the efforts the Japanese are putting forth to turn the current of demand in the direction of their spinnings, by the very reprehensible system of lotteries, which are entirely opposed to the regular

tions of these Settlements, as was demonstrated some months ago, when it was thought the idea had been abandoned so far as China was concerned. We are credibly informed, however, that the first drawing took place on the 12th instant, in the premises No. 264B Boone Road, Hongkew, the prizes drawn for amounting to yen 50,000, divided as follows—1st prize yen 10,000, two second prizes of yen 3,000 each, ten third prizes of yen 500 and other small prizes amounting to yen 29,000. The drawings are announced to take place every three months. Information has been received from a very reliable source concerning the quantity of American goods, or rather their value, at present stored in Tientsin and Manchuria, from which it is computed that there are 24,000 bales in Tientsin, 8,000 bales in Newchwang and 2,000 bales in Mukden. Here it is estimated the stock in Godowns amount approximately to 36,000 bales Drills and 78,000 bales Sheetings, which is none too large in view of the moderate shipments on the way.

HONGKONG PRICES CURRENT.

HONGKONG, 31st October, 1908.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6lbs. piece \$ — \$ —	
7 lbs. " 2.25 to 2.50	
8.4 lbs. " 3.15 to 4.15	
10 lbs. " 4.05 to 5.45	
White Shirtings—54/56 reed .. 2.70 to 3.55	
58/60 " " 3.55 to 5.95	
64/66 " " 6.10 to 6.80	
Fine..... " 8.05 to 9.30	
Book-folds .. 5.50 to 6.00	
Victoria Lawns—12 yards .. 0.60 to 1.75	
T-Cloths—8 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y .. 2.00 to 2.20	
7 lbs. " " 2.30 to 3.35	
6 lbs. " "Mexicans, .. —	
7 lbs. " " 3.35 to 3.85	
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) " 3.25 to 4.15	
Drills, English—40 yds., 13 1/4 to 14 lbs. } 4.50 to 5.20	

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 6 lbs. piece } \$1.85 to \$4.25	
Brocades—Dyed yard 0.11 to 14.75	
Chinese—Assorted " 0.09 to 0.25	
Velvets—Black, 22 in., " 0.27 1/2 to 0.55	
Velveteens—18 in., " 0.50 to 0.27	
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk .. 0.50 to 2.00	

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops yard \$0.70 to \$2.00	
German, " 0.50 to 0.65	
Habit, Medium & Broad Cloths, .. 0.95 to 2.00	
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs. piece 8.25 to 9.50	
Assorted " 7.35 to 9.60	
Camlets—Assorted " 12.00 to 30.00	
Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches } 13.50 to 21.00	
Assorted " }	
Orleans—Plain " 9.50 to 11.00	
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 0.60 to 1.40	

RAW COTTON—

Bombay picul \$23.00 to \$24.00	
Bengal (New), Rangoon and Dacca..... " 23.00 to 24.50	
Shanghai and Japanese... " 26.00 to 27.00	
Tungchow and Ningpo ... " 26.20 to 28.00	

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod..... picul \$ 4.10	
Square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.)... " 4.05	
Swedish Bar " 4.15	
Small Round Rod " 4.50	
Hoop, 1/2 to 1 1/2 in., " 5.80	
Wire, 16/25 oz., " 9.50	
Old Wire Rope..... " 3.00	
Lead—L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop .. —	
Australian " 9.25	
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/28 oz. 38.50	
Vivian's, 16/32 oz., 38.50	
Elliot's, 16/28 oz. 38.50	
Tin, " 85.00	
Tin-Plates, box 8.20	
Steel cwt. case —	

MISCELLANEOUS—

Quicksilver, picul 170.00/173.00	
Window Glass, box 4.75	
Kerosene Oil, case —	
Saltpetre, No. 1 picul \$11.00 to 11.75	
Do. No. 2 " 10.70 to 10.85	
Do. No. 3 " 9.60 to 10.00	

WHEATEN FLOUR—

Dayton, per bag of 50 lbs. gross \$2.30	
Crown " 3.00	
Crescent " 2.10	
Orient " 2.00	
Brown Bear " 2.27	

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 19th October 1908.

Hongkong markets—

Apricot \$22	
Borax \$20 to 26	
Cassia \$204	
Cloves \$30	
Camphor..... \$96	
Cow Bezoar \$120 to 135	
Fennel Seed \$8	
Galangal \$8	
Grapes \$17	
Kismis \$22	
Glue \$26	
Oilbanyum \$2 to 17	
Oil Sandalwood \$235 to 350	
" Rosa \$50 to 250	
" Cassia \$250	
Raisins \$8	
Senna Leaves \$6 at 9	
Sandalwood \$32	
Saltpetre \$11 at 12	

EXPORTS:—

TEA.

HANKOW, Oct. 21st.—Business reported since the 14th inst., is as under:—

	1908.	1907.
Settlements	2,374	—
Consisting of the following Teas:—		
	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Ningchows 1,749	16.50	—
Ichangs 625	17.00	—

The following are Statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz. 22nd October, 1907:—

	1908.	1907.
HANKOW TEA	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements	539,175	—
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account... 67,937		—
Stock	37,686	—
Arrivals	644,798	—
KIUKIANG TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements... ..	182,602	—
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account... 15,335		—
Stock	3,275	—
Arrivals	201,212	—

Comparative Quotations per picul are as under:—

	1908.	1907.
Ningchows Tls. 15.50 at 100.00 Tls. — at —		
Khemuns... .. 21.00	67.00	—
Hohows 19.00	24.50	—
Kutoans... .. 22.50	27.00	—
Wenchows 19.50	21.00	—
Oopacks 9.50	28.00	—
Oonams 8.75	28.00	—
Oonfaas 12.00	36.00	—
Seangtams 8.75	18.50	—
Ichangs 17.00	65.00	—

The export to 18th instant, as per Customs Returns stands thus:

	Hankow.	Kiukiang.
Season 1908-1909...lbs.	16,789,071	4,714,833
Via Shanghai, 1908/9		
To Great Britain	2,223,531	1sb.
" U. S. & Canada	6,013,284	"
" Continent	2,630,485	"
" Russia in Europe	133,323	"
" Russia via North	1,287,244	"
" Shanghai	7,754,633	"
Direct 1908		
United States	473,576	
Great Britain	3,793,659	
Continent	367,724	
Russia in Europe	5,433,132	
Russia in Asia	22,324,928	

At Kobe Settlements to the 16th inst., amounted to piculs 43,800, against piculs 65,500 to the same date last year. The season may be considered as closed.

JAPAN REPORTS.

From the Kobe Market Report of the 16th instant:—Copper.—Market quiet, a few small transactions have taken place. Fish Oil.—Continues weak. Rice.—Market unchanged. The Government has now lowered its first crop estimate of 53 Million Koku to 50 Millions. Cotton Yarn.—With Farmers preparing for the Rice Harvest, local demand has become small, in consequence of which prices for Yarn have declined and the market remains weak and dull. Vegetable Wax.—Little doing. Matting.—At the beginning of the month prices for stock lots advanced 20 to 30 sen per roll but declined considerably on the departure of the S. S. "Manchuria" which was the last vessel from this port likely to reach San Francisco before the increased Overland Railway Rates come into force. Prices for contract goods remained unchanged. Straw Braid.—The Straw Braid market for the past fortnight has been extremely dull. Owing to the scarcity of enquiries quotations have ruled weaker.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 31st October:—There has been no Sale and there is no change of price \$83.50—\$84.50.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, October 21st.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul
Cowhides, best selected	Tls. 83.65
Do. seconds	" 80.40
Buffalo hides, best selected	" 21.50
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour,	" —
Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each	" 8.20
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	" 9.90
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu ..	" 8.95
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" 7.50
Jute	" 3.35
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 11.40
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng	" 11.10
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" —
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 12.50
Animal Tallow	" 12.50
Gallnuts, usual shape	" 16.00
Gallnuts, plum do.	" 18.00
Tobacco, Tingchow	" —
Tobacco, Wongkong	" —
Black Bristles, Riflings	" —
Feathers, grey and/or white Wild Duck ..	" —
Turmeric	" —
Sesamum Seed	" 5.55
Sesamum Seed Oil	" —
Wood Oil	" 8.60
Tea Oil	" —

Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co. in their Fortnightly Produce Circular, dated 22nd October, report as follow:—Gallnuts.—A continued good business is done in Plumshaped. Prices have advanced about 5 per cent. Usual Gallnuts are offered in moderate quantities. Cowhides.—Home markets are eager to purchase and continue sending orders which cannot be executed as there are no supplies as yet. Some summer-hair cargo is dealt in at Hankow. Tobacco.—We hear of no business. Feathers.—Grey feathers are offered in fair quantities, while the supply in White Geese and Duckfeathers is limited. Good demand from home. Cotton.—Owing to the favourable weather during the past week the market is slightly easier. Mills are buying freely. Europe is not interested at present quotations. Tallow.—An excellent demand. Prices are advancing in consequence. Supplies coming in are quickly disposed of. Wood Oil.—Good business at slightly higher prices. Sesamumseed.—Market firm. Demand from home has slackened. Strawbraid.—Demand is for fine Laichow Mottled, and Course 7-and, Split. Loyal white is now a trifle easier in price but Kwangchow white still commands former high prices. Stocks, small, price firm. Goatskin Bags.—Demand is much improved, but hardly any good cargo is obtainable. Wool.—Sheep.—A good business has been done with American. Market extremely firm. The demand continues, while stocks are rapidly decreasing. Antimony.—The article is offered more freely, but little business has resulted, owing to the advance asked by the natives.

Per P. & O. steamer, *Delta*, sailed on 17th Oct. 1908.—For Manchester:—585 bales waste silk, 1 case blackwood furniture. For Gibraltar:—1 case curio. For St. Chamond:—10 bales raw silk. For Milan:—80 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—290 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—50 bales waste silk, 2 cases feathers, 220 bales raw silk. For London:—351 bales waste silk, 135 bales raw silk, 1,046 boxes tea, 38 rolls matting, 40 cases cassia, 2 cases cigars, 2 cases hats, 5 cases silks, 1 case glass bangles, 6 cases private effects.

Per M. M. steamer *Caledonien*, sailed on 27th October, 1908. For Marseilles:—228 bales raw silk, 300 bales waste silk, 22 cases feathers, 97 cases tea, 2 cases silk, 17 cases hats, 2 cases cigars, 5 cases leaf tobacco. For Lyons:—350 bales raw silk. For Barcelona:—2 cases silk. For Bordeaux:—7 packages tea. For Aden:—50 cases cassia. For Bombay:—1 case cigars. For Noumea:—1 case prepared opium. For London:—2 cases hats. For Manchester:—10 bales waste silk.

FREIGHT.

Hankow, 14th Oct.—Per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 45/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 45/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) General Cargo 30/- per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez), Tea 37/6 per ton of 40 cft. plus river freight. To New York (Overland) per carload; Tea G. \$1 1/4 cents per lb gross; less than carload Tea G. \$1 1/4 cents per lb gross; plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.60 at 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 30th October, 1908.—Very little business has been transacted during the past week, and there are no alterations of importance in quotations to report.

BANKS.—The market closes steady at \$8 1/2, with small sales and probable buyers at the rate. London is slightly firmer at £80. 5s. 0d.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been booked at \$785, and North Chinas at Tls. 85. There are buyers of Cantons at \$175, and of Yangtszes at \$160.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are procurable at \$335, after a small sale privately at the rate. Chinas have advanced to \$98 with buyers.

SHIPPING.—A sale of Hongkong, Canton and Macao at \$28 1/2 is reported and there are further buyers at this figure. Other quotations in this section are unchanged, and there is no business to reported.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are easier with sellers at \$115; and Luzons can still be procured at \$22.

MINING.—No business is reported, and quotations are without change.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been booked at \$98 and more shares are on offer. Kowloon Wharves are procurable at \$49, and Shanghai Docks at Tls. 82. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves are firmer in the North with buyers at Tls. 153.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been booked at \$94 and con-

tinued on offer at the rate. Sales of Humphrey Estates at \$9 are also reported.

COTTON MILLS.—Quotations are unchanged, and there is no business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have again been booked at \$10. Electric after sales at \$17 1/2 and \$18 close in firm request at the latter rate. China Light and Powers have declined to \$5 1/2 with sellers, and Union Water Boats to \$10 with sales. A private message received this evening from Shanghai quotes Langka's at Tls. 700.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS
Alhambra	Pa. 200	Nominal
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$800
National B. of China	28	London 250
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$51, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$10, buyers
China Light & P. Co.	{ \$10 } { \$1 }	\$5 1/2, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$9 1/2, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 66
Hongkong	\$10	\$10 1/2, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 80
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 75
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 240
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$22 1/2, ex div.
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$49, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$93, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$9 1/2
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 82, in S'hai
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 152 1/2, in S'hai
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$12, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$10, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$185, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$18, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$77, buyers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$235, sellers
H. K. Milling Co., Ltd.	\$100	Nominal
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$24, seller
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$175, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$98, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$86 1/2
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$335, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 85, sales
Union	\$100	\$785, sales
Yangtsze	\$60	\$180, buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$94 sales & sel.
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$9, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$27, buyers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 116
West Point Building	\$50	\$46, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	£cs. 250	\$580, buyers
Raubs	18/10	\$7, sellers
Peak Tramways	{ \$10 } { \$1 }	\$14 \$2
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$115, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$22, sellers
Robinson Piano Co.	\$50	\$59
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$34, sellers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$28 1/2, sales & buy.
Indo-China S. N. Co.	\$25	{ \$17 1/2 } { \$17 1/2 } sellers
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	45/-
Star Ferry	\$10	\$24 1/2
Do. New	\$5	\$15, buyers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$24, buyers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$9, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$7	\$5, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$24, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$9 1/2
Wiesmann Ltd.	\$100	\$150
United Asbestos	\$4	\$12 1/2
Do. Founders	\$10	\$230
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$10, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

30th October, 1908.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$820, sellers
National of China	28	\$51, buyers
Russo-Chinese	{ R187 1/2 } { T125 }	Tls. 175, sellers
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'ton	\$100	\$790, sellers
North-China	25	Tls. 83, buyers
Yangtze Assoon	\$80	\$167 1/2, sales
Canton	\$50	\$225, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$312 1/2, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$94, buyers ex 73
Shipping:—		
Indo-China { pref. } { def. }	\$10	Tls. 27, sellers
Shell Trans. { ord. } & Trading { pref. }	21	Tls. 18, sellers
S'hai Tug & { ord. } Lighter { pref. }	10	\$23.50, sellers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	\$29.10, sellers
Kochien Transport- ation & Tow Boat	T50	Tls. 48, sellers
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Eng.	T100	Tls. 82, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$105, sellers
S. & H'kew Wharf	T100	Tls. 154, sellers
H. K'loon W. & G.	\$50	\$49, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 217 1/2, sellers
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation	T50	Tls. 90, buyers
China Refining	\$100	\$132 1/2, sellers
Mining:—		
Raub Australian	{ 21 } { 18/10 }	\$8, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	21	Tls. 16, sellers
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment	T50	Tls. 116, sales
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$99, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$10 1/2, sellers
Weihaiwei	T25	\$9, sellers
China	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 99, buyers
Cotton:—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 65, buyers
International	T75	Tls. 80, sellers
Laou Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 75, sellers
Soy Chee	T500	Tls. 240, sellers
H'kong C. S. W. D.	\$10	\$9, buyers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 119, sellers
Major Brothers	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 14, sellers
China Flour Mill	T50	Tls. 42, buyers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 50, sellers
Green Is. Cement	\$10	\$10 1/2, sellers ex 73
Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat	Gs. 100	Tls. 635, buyers
Shanghai - Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 120, sales
S'hai Waterworks	220	T. 400, buyers
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	100	\$85, buyers
A. Butler Cement, Tile Works	50	\$25, sellers
Kalumpung Rubber	50	Tls. 61, sellers
Eastern Fibre	10	nominal
Shanghai Electric Construction	210	\$8.15s. sellers
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holtz	\$20	\$20, sellers
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$52, buyers
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$11 1/2, sellers
Central Ordinary	\$15	\$12, buyers
Central Founders	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co.	\$50	\$47, sellers
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$24, sales
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$16, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$98, sellers
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 7, sellers
Tsingtao Hotel Co.	\$100	nominal
Lane, Crawford & Co.	100	\$150, sellers
Dunning & Co.	50	\$47 1/2, sellers
S'hai Horse Bazar	T50	Tls. 42 1/2, sellers
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 57 1/2, buyers
China Im. & Ex. Lumber	T100	Tls. 83, sellers
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	\$23, sellers
Dallas Horse Rep- ository	T50	Tls. 25, sellers
Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50, sellers

J. P. BISHOP & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. of Shanghai in their Share Report for the week ending October 22nd, state:—There has been a good business done this week, but we find that generally speaking rates have somewhat declined since our last issue. The difficulties of finance for the December Settlement, followed by China New Year, has caused early adjustments to be made and it is mainly on this account we think that there has been a decline in both Maatschappij &c. in Langkats and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.—No business has been reported. Shares are wanted at \$820. The T.T. on London to-day is—2.44. Insurance.—North China Insurance.—There are buyers at Tls. 83. Yangtze Insurance.—Sales have taken place at \$107½. Shipping.—There is no business reported. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co.—The price remains at Tls. 82 nominal. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves have sustained a further decline to Tls. 153 for cash and Tls. 155 for December. Sugars.—Perak Sugars.—There are sellers at Tls. 90. Mining.—There is no business reported. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment Co.—A good business has been done at Tls. 116 for cash and October. Some shares are now on the market at this price. Anglo-French Lands have been dealt in at Tls. 97½. Miscellaneous.—In the Miscellaneous division there is hardly any change from last week, rates are as appended below. Industrial.—Ewo Cottons.—Business have been done at Tls. 65 for October and Tls. 67½ and Tls. 68 for December. Closing slightly weaker. International Cottons. A Sale is reported at Tls. 61½ for December. There are sellers of cash shares at Tls. 60. Shanghai Gas Co. Small lots have been placed at Tls. 119 during the week. Maatschappij, etc., in Langkats.—Since our last issue both cash and forward rates have steadily declined. The market opened with cash shares at Tls. 650, and December at Tls. 655, but at closing we quote the market at Tls. 632½ sellers, and for December at Tls. 645. March share have been freely dealt in from Tls. 690, Tls. 685 and Tls. 680. At the close these rates are not to be obtained. Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco.—The market has been quiet and there are sellers of cash shares at Tls. 120; Tls. 122½ for December has been reported. Shanghai Waterworks.—There are buyers at Tls. 400. Kalumpung Rubbers have been placed at Tls. 61, and shares are offering. Shanghai Electric Construction Co. are marked down this week to 28. 15s. Loans and Debentures.—A fair amount of business has been reported this week at considerably lower rates than have prevailed recently, which was only to be expected as soon as the tightness of money arose. Shanghai Municipal six per cent. debentures have changed hands at Tls. 101. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf six per cent debentures at par. There is nothing reported in Shanghai Land Investment debentures, but a small lot of Shanghai Waterwork debentures were placed at Tls. 103.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, October 30th		
ON LONDON.—Telegraphic Transfer	119	
Bank Bills, on demand	119½	
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	119½	
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	119½	
Credits, at 4 months' sight	119½	
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	119½	
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	220½	
Credits 4 months' sight	225	
ON GERMANY.—On demand	179½	
ON NEW YORK.—Bank Bills, on demand	42½	
Credits, 60 days' sight	43½	
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	132	
Bank, on demand	132½	
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	132	
Bank on demand	132½	
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	75½	
Private, 30 days' sight	76½	
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	85½	
ON MANILA.—On demand	86	
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	75½	
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	105½	
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	12½ p.c. pm.	
ON SAIGON.—On demand	12 p.c. pm.	
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	87½	
SWISS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11 25	
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$59.30	
BAR SILVER, per oz	23½	

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

	per cent. discount.
Chinese 20 cents pieces	\$4.13
" " "	5.55
Hongkon " " "	3.80
" " "	3.80

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG 30th October.—The demand for tonnage from the North continues, and suitable prompt steamers are scarce. From Saigon to Hongkong, 5 cents per picul the local rice market being again very weak; to Philippines, two handy sized boats fixed, one at 23 cents, and the other at 17 cents; to Java, no demand. From Newchwang to Canton, a large business has been transacted at 25 cents per picul; to Amoy, 24 cents has been paid. Coal freights continue firm. From South Japan Coal port to Hongkong, \$1.30 last; to Singapore, \$1.50; Swatow, \$1.90; Canton, \$2.20. The following are the settlements:—

Telemachus—British steamer, 1,240 tons, Saigon to Hongkong 25,000 piculs, 5 cents per picul
Spir—Norwegian steamer, 870 tons, Saigon to Singapore, \$3,750 lump sum.

Fri—Norwegian steamer, 859 tons, Saigon to 1 port Philippines, 19 cents per picul.

Taican—Norwegian steamer, 1,042 tons, Saigon to Manila 85,000 piculs, 17 cents per picul.

Skranstad—British steamer, 860 tons, Saigon to 1 port Philippines, 25,000 piculs, 23 cents per picul.

Marie—German steamer, 1,169 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 30,34,000 piculs, 22 cents per picul.

Jaab Diederichsen—German steamer 712 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 24 cents per picul.

Landrat Schieff—German steamer, 1,000 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 25,30,000 piculs, 24 cents per picul.

Nanchang—British steamer, 1,044 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 30,000 piculs, 25 cents per picul.

Wa Sang—British steamer, 1,127 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 25,30,000 piculs, 25 cents per picul.

Fooshing—British steamer, 1,433 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 25,30,000 piculs, 25 cents per picul.

Clara Jensen—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 30,000 piculs, 25 cents per picul.

Kueiyang—British steamer, 1,044 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 30,000 piculs, 25 cents per picul.

Hopang—British steamer, 1,359 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 25,30,000 piculs, 25 cents per picul.

Esang—British steamer, 1,127 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 30,000 piculs, 25 cents per picul.

Pume—German steamer, 830 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Canton, 25 cents per picul.

Michael Jensen—German steamer, 951 tons, Newchwang and Tientsin to Amoy, option to Canton 24/26 cent per picul.

Prithof—Norwegian steamer, 891 tons, Quanyen to Hongkong 3 trips Private terms.

Victoria—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, Pulo Laut to Kolsichang \$2.25 per ton.

Onsang—British steamer, 1,787 tons, Wakamatsu to Canton 2,500 tons \$2.20 per ton balance Moji to Hongkong \$1.25 per ton.

Ragnar—Norwegian steamer, 1,220 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong \$1.30 per ton.

Matilda—German steamer, 1,818 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong \$1.30 per ton.

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

October—ARRIVALS.

22, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
23, Clara Jensen, German str., from Chefoo.
23, Feiching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
23, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
23, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
23, Knivaberg, German str., from Swatow.
23, Mandasan M., Jap. str., from Kutohinotsu.
23, Merapi, Dutch str., from Singapore.
23, Taming, British str., from Manila.
23, Tenyo M., Jap. str., from San Francisco.
23, Tjilatjap, Dutch str., from Macassar.
24, Yatorofu Maru, Jap. str., from Japan.
25, Aki Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
25, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
25, Austria, Austrian str., from Kobe.
25, Caledonien, French str., from Yokohama.
25, Haiman, British str., from Swatow.
25, Holstein, German str., from Swatow.
25, Kwangse, British str., from Swatow.
25, M. Korner, German str., from Moji.
25, Shoshu Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
25, Soudan, British str., from Southampton.

26, Anzhu, British str., from Bangkok.
26, Bellerophon British str., from Tacoma.
26, Daguy, Norw. str., from Newchwang.
26, Fookang, British str., from Singapore.
26, Haiyang, British str., from Greenock.
26, Hitachi Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.
26, Kwangtab, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
26, Oriel, British str., from Moji.
26, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
26, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
26, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
26, Tourane, French str., from Saigon.
26, Triumph, German str., from Hoilow.
26, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Australian.
26, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
27, Chenan, British str., from Swatow.
27, Denbighshire, Br. str., from London.
27, Derwent, British str., from Saigon.
27, Hempstead, Br. str., from Freemantle.
27, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
27, Kutsang, British str., from Moji.
27, Somali, British str., from Antwerp.
27, Tudor Prince, Br. str., from New York.
27, Usher, British str., from Manila.
28, Choshun M., Jap. str., from Shanghai.
28, Gilbert, French str., from K. C. Wan.
28, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
28, Helene, German str., from Swatow.
28, Johanne, German str., from Hoilow.
28, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
28, Singao, British str., from Haiphong.
28, Delhi, British str., from Bombay.
29, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.

October—

DEPARTURES.

23, Chibbi, British str., for Hoilow.
23, Forest Dale, British str., for Samarang.
23, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
23, Helene, German str., for Swatow.
23, Kleist, German str., for Shanghai.
23, Marie, German str., for Newchwang.
23, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
23, Tjipanaa, Dutch str., for Batavia.
24, A. Apoor, British str., for Shanghai.
24, Fooshing, British str., for Shanghai.
24, G. Apoor, British str., for Singapore.
24, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
24, Indrani, British str., for Singapore.
24, Kusichow, British str., for Tientsin.
24, Mongolia, Am. str., for San Francisco.
24, Tjilini, Dutch str., for Yokohama.
24, Zafro, British str., for Manila.
25, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
25, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
25, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
25, Hikosan M., Jap. str., for Kutohinotsu.
25, Knivaberg, German str., for K. C. Wan.
25, Mandasan M., Jap. str., for Ocean Island.
25, Mathilde, German str., for Hoilow.
25, Pongtong, German str., for Swatow.
26, Avala, British str., for Bangkok.
26, C. Iyuen, Chinese str., for Amoy.
26, Kolsiching, German str., for Bangkok.
27, Caledonien, French str., for Europe &c.
27, Taming, British str., for Manila.
27, Tango Maru, Jap. str., for Seattle.
27, Tourane, French str., for Shanghai.
28, Alger, British str., for Saigon.
28, Austria, Austrian str., for Singapore.
28, Clara Jensen, Ger. str., for Newchwang.
28, Glenfarg, British str., for Vancouver.
28, Glenogle, British str., for Amoy.
28, Hailan, French str., for Hoilow.
28, Haiman, British str., for Swatow.
28, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
28, Kinkiang, British str., for Shanghai.
28, Landrat Schieff, Ger. str., for Tientsin.
28, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., for Newchwang.
28, Panther, Am. gunboat, for Manila.
28, Ragnar, Norwegian str., for Hongkong.
28, Shoshu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
28, Tjilatjap, Dutch str., for Amoy.
28, Triumph, German str., for Hoilow.
28, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
29, Yatorofu Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
29, Bourbon, French str., for Saigon.
29, Fookang, British str., for Shanghai.
29, Haiyang, British str., for Amoy.
29, Laertes, British str., for Saigon.
29, Merapi, Dutch str., for Samarang.
29, Onsang, British str., for Yokohama.
29, Somali, British str., for Shanghai.